

**WEGMAN'S NURSERY
GARDEN TIPS
JANUARY 2021**



Rose Care & Pruning
January 14
10:00 am – 11:00 am

Fruit Tree Care & Pruning
January 21
10:00 am – 11:00 am

Wegman's Nursery
492 Woodside Road
Redwood City

Mark Wegman and Andy Broderson, Horticulturists and California Certified
Nursery Association Professionals will be the presenters.

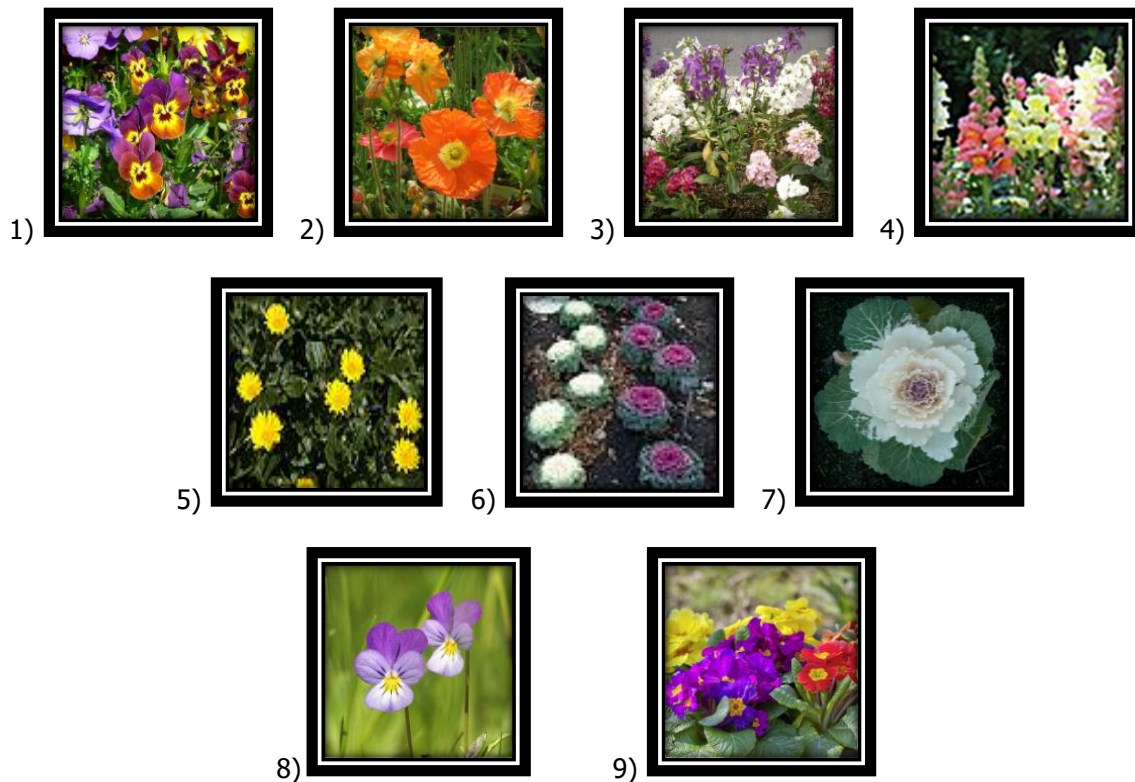
Informative Lectures on Care & Diseases
Pruning Demonstrations
Questions & Answers
Free to the Public



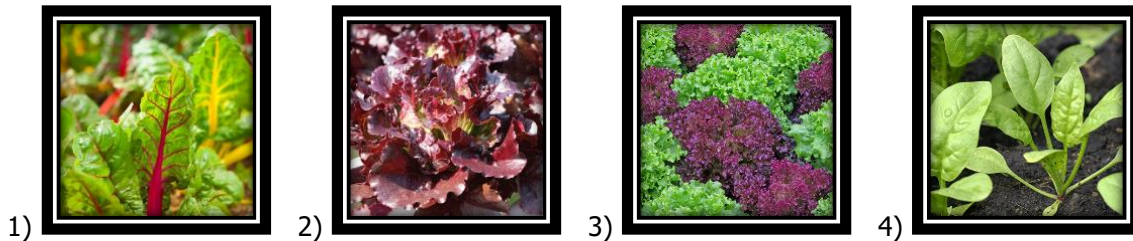
ANNUALS



It is time to fertilize annuals with **Master Nursery® Rose & Flower Food**. Winter annuals can be planted through late February. For shady spots, try 1) English Primrose, 2) Fairy Primrose, 3) Primula Obconica, 4) Cyclamen, 5) Cineraria, and 6) Violas.



For sunnier spots, try 1) Pansies, 2) Iceland Poppies, 3) Stock, 4) Snapdragons, 5) Calendula, and flowering 6) Kale, 7) Cabbage. 8) Violas and 9) Primroses. All bloom well in shady areas but also do well in sun during the winter.



For a striking and unique effect, mix some 1) Rainbow Chard, 2) Red Leaf Lettuce, 3) Red and Green mixed Lettuce and 4) Spinach in your bed of annual flowers.



Sow seeds for Forget-Me-Nots and Sweet Peas directly into the garden.

Don't forget to apply **Monterey Sluggo®** or **Deadline®** for Slugs and Snails after planting annuals. Watch for slug and snail damage as winter progresses and continue to bait as needed. **Sluggo®** IS safe for pets and people. **Deadline®** is very efficient, but toxic to pets and people.

If an unknown and mysterious creature is eating your Sweet Peas or Iceland Poppies and there are no tell-tale slug and snail tracks, look for white or gold-crowned sparrows. These little birds will hide in bushes and then dart out to feed on fresh greenery and young vegetables—especially lettuce. If birds are the problem, cover the plants with **plastic bird netting** until they are about 12 inches tall. After that size, the birds will leave them alone.

BULBS

Apply **Master Nursery® Bulb Food** when bulbs are planted, when they break ground and again when they finish blooming.



Summer-blooming bulbs such as 1) Calla Lilies, 2) Dahlias will arrive by mid- to late January. We will also have bare-root 3) Peonies and a selection of unusual 4) Elephant's Ears, a dramatic foliage plant for shady moist places.



Next year, if you want to prolong your spring bloom, store bulbs in the refrigerator crisper and plant out through late January. You can also plant your Narcissus at different depths (to 8 inches deep), and the deeper ones will come up later each year. [Click here to see our Spring Bulb Care Guide](#). Remember, bulbs don't like summer water.

FRUITS

Spray Peaches and Nectarines with a mixture of Monterey Liqui-Cop® (four tablespoons per gallon) and **Master Nursery® Pest Fighter Year-Round Spray Oil** (six tablespoons per gallon of water) or with **Chlorothalonil** alone. This is the most important of the Peach Tree sprayings, spray until it drips from the branches, and all the buds and wood is covered.

Attend our free [Fruit Tree Care and Pruning Seminar](#) on January 26th from 1 to 3 p.m. Bare-Root Deciduous Fruit Trees are here! For the best selection, come early.

How to Plant a Bare-Root Fruit Tree

1. Dig a hole about two to three feet wide and as deep as the longest root so that the graft union remains about four to six inches above the soil line once the soil has settled.
2. Set soil aside and mix in one-third **Master Nursery® Bumper Crop** or **Gold Rush**.
3. Place one-half cup starter fertilizer such as **Master Nursery® Master Start** at bottom of hole. Place the bare root tree into the hole with the graft scar facing east or north. Begin backfilling with soil mix. When about halfway filled, firmly pack soil around roots with your foot, but do not compact! Continue filling.
4. Use extra soil mix to construct a berm around the periphery of the hole.
5. Put water in until the hole fills and the waters stops bubbling.
6. When finished, the topmost roots should be *no more* than one inch below the soil level.
7. If you do not live in deer country, bare-root fruit trees should be pruned to about two to three feet tall so that primary scaffold branches develop low and ripe fruit is easily reachable as the tree matures.
8. *Bare-root fruit trees have been sprayed with copper before shipping: no need to reapply dormant sprays!* See our [Planting Bare Root Trees & Roses Care Guide](#) for diagrams.

When **hard freezes** are expected, protect citrus by tenting with burlap, a blanket or **De Witt® N-Sulate™** fabric covers. Try to keep the cover off foliage to minimize damage to branch tips and flowers. Pull potted plants under the eaves of the house and if you expect a big freeze run an extension cord out into your citrus and put a 60 or 70 watt bulb under the cover to heat the area. Be sure to remove the covers first thing in the morning as temperatures rise.

Prune all deciduous fruit trees now through February and spray one time (*except Peaches and Nectarines*) with **Monterey Liqui-Cop®** and **Horticultural Oil** or Chlorothalonil (**Bonide®Fung-Onil™**) alone. Be sure there will be no rain for at least 8 hours after spraying.

Peach and Nectarine Trees should be pruned during January, and sprayed for the third and final time at the end of the month. You must use **Monterey Liqui-Cop®** at four tablespoons per gallon for Peaches and Nectarines to which six tablespoons of **Master Nursery® Pest Fighter Year-Round Spray Oil** has been added for better adhesion and to control overwintering insects.



1)



2)



3)



4)

Prune 1) Blueberries; do not spray.

Prune and tie up all 2) Grapes and Cane Berries e.g., 3) Raspberries and 4) Blackberries. Branches on the cane berries which bore fruit last year should be cut to the ground and the new branches tied up.



Citrus should be pruned late February through March if desired or needed. Check now for scale, a sucking insect that usually clusters along fruit stems, new growth and the underside of leaves. If found, spray tree with **Horticultural Oil** (four tablespoons per gallon of water). Wait two weeks between the first and second application. *Never spray oil more than four times during the growing season.*



Egg



Larvae



Pupa



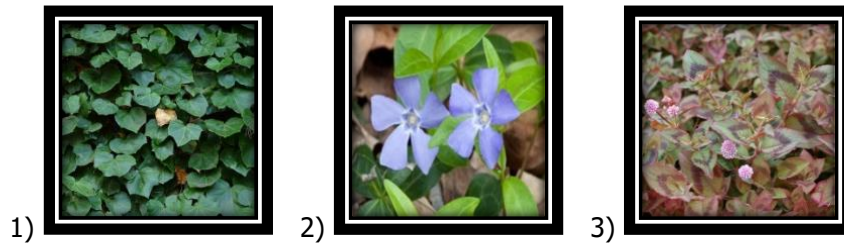
Adult

A leaf miner is showing up on citrus in the Bay Area. The leaves are disfigured and the larvae trails are visible. So far, **SPINOSAD (Bonide® Captain Jack's DeadBug Brew)** is the only "people-safe" insecticide for leaf miners. One solution is to cut off all the infected leaves about three or four inches below the lowest infection and then spray. See our **Citrus Care Guide** for the latest information.

Pick up fallen fruit, remove dried fruit on trees ("mummies"), and rake leaves, placing all debris in trash. Do not compost! Decaying fruits and leaves may harbor overwintering insect pests and fungi — removing both decreases the incidence and proliferation of pests and diseases the next growing season.

Fertilize all citrus this month with **Master Nursery® Citrus Food**.

GROUNDCOVERS



Slugs and snails are especially abundant and troublesome this time of year, nesting and resting in groundcovers. Baiting now will help minimize extant populations and also minimizes damage in the coming spring. Use **Monterey Sluggo®**, safe for pets and people, or **Monterey Deadline®**. Avoid snail and slug baits which contain *only* metaldehyde.

Wait until February to mow low-growing ground covers such as 1) Ivy and 2) Periwinkle (Vinca).

Check out 3) Knotweed (*Polygonum capitata*) as a drought tolerant perennial groundcover.

LAWNS

When planting a lawn around fruit or ornamental trees, remember not to sod or seed within the trees' drip line. Important feeder roots lay close to the surface of the soil in this zone and are prone to mechanical damage by digging, mowing and weeding. Additionally, mature trees require less frequent water than most other plants and can become susceptible to fungal problems when overwatered. Consider redesigning so that trees and turf are completely separate. Remember trees and turfs don't mix.

Bluegrass lawns may show yellowing or spots of yellow caused by rust with the onset of rain and wet weather. This should disappear by spring.

For those of you that still have a lawn, continue monthly feedings with **Master Nursery® Fall & Winter Feed for Lawns**. This fall and winter feed contains a readily available form of Nitrate nitrogen not typically found in warm season fertilizers and reacts more quickly than most other fertilizers.

If you haven't done so this year, now is the time to aerate your lawn. Remove the plugs for a neater appearance or leave them and they will decompose into the lawn.

Set mowers to two inches for fescue and bluegrass lawns during the winter and one to one-half inches for Bermuda lawns. Consider leaving clippings on lawn. As clippings break down, they provide the lawn with nutrients, reducing the need for fertilizers by 30-50%. Clippings do not cause thatch. If you leave clippings on the lawn, fertilize only every other month.

If Bermuda lawns are brown, over seed the entire area with Annual Ryegrass. This will give you a green lawn all winter that is replaced by the Bermuda grass again in the spring.

PERENNIALS



Prune evergreen perennials such as: 1) Penstemon, 2) Chrysanthemums, 3) Lavender and 4) Salvias, now, if you haven't already. If they're still in color, you can wait to cut back absolutely no later than Valentine's Day. Pruning your evergreens keeps them compact and dense. New growth makes the plant appear fresher. Don't prune lavender into bare wood as it may not recover.

Start Mum cuttings at the end of the month. Use a flat or large container and fill with a mixture of three-quarter **Gardner & Bloome® Organic Potting Soil** and one quarter **Perlite**. Use tip cuttings about three to four inches long and strip off all but one of the topmost leaves. Make a clean cut one-quarter inch below the lowest node on the tip cutting, dip it in **Rootone** and put it two or three nodes deep in a pre-prepared hole in the soil mix. Press the soil firmly around the cutting. Water carefully and thoroughly. Place flat or container on a porch or patio with filtered light. Keep moist.

Ornamental grasses should have been cut back by now. Some folks appreciate the ornamental effect of the dried seed heads through the winter months and those can be cut back as late as Valentine's Day but no later.



If you pruned or cut back your perennials last month, succulent new growth should begin to appear at the bases of these plants - ripe feasting for slugs and snails! Bait now with **Monterey Sluggo®** or **Deadline® (Deadline® Bug Baiter & Force II Slug & Snail Killer)**. Especially vulnerable are perennials such as 1) Columbine, 2) Hosta and 3) Delphinium.

ROSES

Bare-root roses are here! For the best selection, come early. [Click here](#) for a complete list of our Bare-Root Roses ([trees](#), [bushes](#) and [climbers](#)).

Roses can be pruned January and into mid-February. Spray with **Monterey Liqui-Cop®** and **Horticultural Oil** before leaves emerge. Dormant spray for roses is the same as for fruit trees: four tablespoons **Liqui-Cop®** mixed with six tablespoons of **Master Nursery® Year-Round Spray Oil** in one gallon of water. See our [Care Guide for Dormant Spray Schedule of Fruit Trees & Roses](#).

Andy Broderson will be conducting our annual [Rose Care and Pruning Seminar](#) on Sunday, January 19th, from 1 – 3 p.m. at Wegman's Nursery, 492 Woodside Road, Redwood City. Come early and enjoy a few light refreshments as our guest.

If your Roses have performed poorly, seem especially disease-prone or just haven't quite met your expectations, now's a good time to replace them. Dig out while soil is soft from rain and replace with bare-root plants.

After pruning and cleaning up your rose beds, sprinkle the area with **Concern® All Natural Weed Prevention Plus**, which is mostly corn gluten.

HOW TO PLANT BARE-ROOT ROSES

1. Dig a hole about three feet wide and one foot deep so that the rose crown remains 3-4 inches above the soil line once the soil has settled.
2. Set soil aside and mix in one-third **Rose Planting Mix** or **Master Nursery® Gold Rush**.
3. Add one-half cup **Master Nursery® Master Start** starter fertilizer at bottom of hole. Build a soil cone with the mixture at middle of the hole and tamp firmly.
4. Drape rose roots over the cone and then backfill halfway with soil mix. Then firmly pack soil around roots, but do not compact! Continue filling.
5. Use a product such as **Master Nursery® Gold Rush** or **Master Nursery® Forest Blend** to pile up over the bud union (graft) and leave in place until new buds start to pop out. When new buds appear, brush the layer off and let it remain as mulch.
6. Use extra soil mix to construct a berm around the periphery of the hole.
7. Water thoroughly until it stops bubbling.
8. Prune properly before planting if roses have not already been pruned.
9. Bare-root roses have been dipped in a fungicide before being shipped from the grower. No need to apply dormant sprays!

See our [Planting Bare-Root Trees & Roses Care Guide](#) for diagrams.

SHRUBS & VINES

When hard freezes are expected, protect tender shrubs and vines by tenting with burlap, a blanket or **DeWitt® N-Sulate™**. Try to keep off foliage to minimize damage to branch tips and flowers.

It is time to prune garden Hydrangeas (*Hydrangea macrophylla*). This species blooms on new growth from one-year old wood - aim your pruning cuts just above the largest pair of outward facing buds on this wood. Hydrangea bushes often need to be thinned out by removing some of the old gnarly stems right to the ground. Each year one-quarter to one-third of the stems should be removed to permit new ones to grow. All stems pencil size or smaller should be removed. If powdery mildew has been a problem during the summer months spray them with **Monterey Liqui-Cop®** after pruning as a preventative. During the summer spray with **Sulfur** or the same **Monterey Liqui-Cop®**, **Horticultural Oil** mixture as used on the roses, if mildew appears. See our [Hydrangeas Care Guide](#).

To intensify the blue or pink coloration of garden Hydrangeas, apply **Aluminum Sulphate (for blue)** or **Lime (for pink)** in December, January, February, and March. Use **Oyster Shell Lime**, which contains calcium carbonate, an excellent addition to our soils. **Dolomite Lime**, on the other hand, contains magnesium, of which we already have plenty in our native soils.

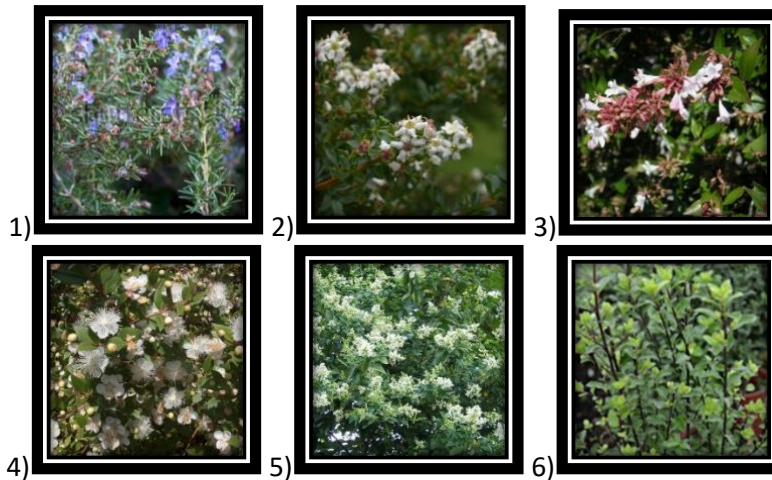


As **Camellias begin blooming**, you may spot blotching on petal margins of open flowers, and flower buds. These are characteristic of **Camellia petal blight**, a fungus for which Sanitation is important in reducing symptoms spread of the disease. Remove infected flowers to let infected petals hit the ground. If they do, trash immediately - do not compost!



notice brown partly open flowers symptoms and preventing and buds and try not gather and place in

Azalea flower blight has similar symptoms as camellia petal blight, but can be controlled with a fungicide applied before the buds begin to show color. Use **Bonide®Fung-onil™** (Chlorothalonil).



Hardy evergreen shrubs such as 1) Rosemary, 2) Escallonia, 3) Abelia, 4) Common Myrtle, 5) Texas Privet, and 6) Pittosporum should be pruned now or by mid-February.



Evergreen spring-bloomers such as 1) Pink Jasmine, 2) Hardenbergia, 3) Banks' Rose, 4) Cecile Brunner Rose, 5) Breath of Heaven, and 6) Leptospermum should be pruned after they bloom.



Likewise, **deciduous winter- or spring-blooming shrubs** such as 1) Forsythia, 2) Spiraea, common 3) Snowball and 4) flowering fruit trees (cherry shown here) should be pruned after they bloom.



Wisteria, on the other hand, should be pruned before it blooms. Cut the new whippy, vegetative growth back to within two buds from the main stem. Be sure to leave the fat, elongated buds that will produce flowers.



Clematis should also be pruned while dormant. Which type of Clematis you grow determines whether you will prune to the ground, halfway to the ground, or simply thin out, as various types bloom on different wood.

Consult a source such as the *American Horticultural Society's A-Z Encyclopedia of Garden Plants*.



Wait to prune tender shrubs and vines such as 1) Pink Jasmine, 2) Potato Vine, 3) Hibiscus, 4) Bougainvillea, 5) Abutilon, 6) Geraniums, and 7) Fuchsia, until mid-February.

Be sure to rake up leaves from deciduous shrubs, especially those infected with powdery mildew. Discard in trash containers rather than compost piles. Most of our home compost piles reach sufficient temperatures to break down food and yard waste, but they don't typically reach temperatures (140°F+) required to destroy harmful fungi and bacteria.

TREES

Bare-root season includes flowering trees, such as Flowering Plums and Cherries, and shade trees, such as European Birches. Without container and soil, these trees are easier to plant bare-root and tests have found that the bare root trees perform better than their containerized cousins. To plant, follow directions for planting bare-root fruit trees, listed under **FRUITS**.

Our container Maple selection will consist of Bloodgood, Bonfire, Burgundy Lace, Fireglow, Emperor I, Oshio Beni, Red Dragon, Shaina, Seiryu, Shishigashira, Sango Kaku, Crimson Queen, Garnet, Inabe Shidare, Tamukeyama, Viridis, and Waterfall. We are also able to procure on special orders rare and unusual cultivars in one gallon to specimen sizes.

A wider than usual selection of deciduous Magnolias will also be available, including: Butterfly, Jane, Nigra, Randy and Magnolia Stellata Royal Star.

Winter's cool and moist conditions assist conifers to become established more readily than at other times of the year, so now is the best time to shop for and plant large burlap and ball or containerized conifers.

Be sure to rake leaves from deciduous trees and discard diseased leaves in trash containers rather than compost piles. If leaves are healthy, consider mulching your garden beds with them. Not only does mulch reduce soil compaction during the rainy months, it adds valuable organic material to the soil as it composts directly on the beds. In turn, this organic material conditions our clay soils, improving drainage and making nutrients more accessible.

Look for broken and torn branches after storms. Prune to healthy tissue, using heading cuts if parts of branches are broken or torn and removing entire branches if needed. Consulting a simple, informative book such as **Ortho's All About Pruning** will help you determine where to prune and how to make the proper cut. If severe damage is done to older, mature trees, we strongly encourage you to seek the services of a certified arborist. While you may pay more for their work than you would for a noncertified pruner or gardener, you can be assured that the health and longevity of your trees will not be compromised by poor practices such as topping and incorrect pruning cuts.

In both San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, the **olive fruit fly has infested many olive trees**, rendering fruit unusable for home curing. If you're thinking of home curing olives, be sure to have fruit checked for maggots. The Olive Fruit Fly Trap and Lure should be used to capture the first adults so you can start your spray schedule. Please see our **Olive Care Guide**.



VEGETABLES

Fertilize winter veggies with **Master Nursery® Tomato & Vegetable Food**.

January marks the last month to plant cool season crops, which should be ready for harvest prior to warmer temperatures in spring. Plant Cole crops such as Broccoli, Cauliflower, Cabbage, etc. and, Lettuce, Spinach, Cilantro, Chard, Mustard, Peas, Beets, Turnips, Rutabagas, and Bok Choy now through the end of the month.

Continue planting Onions and Leeks from starts and Garlic from cloves.

You may plant seed potatoes at any time this month. Make sure your soil has been tilled or dug and amended at least six inches deep.

Tomatoes, Peppers and Eggplants can be started indoors or in greenhouses late January. Wait until February for other summer crops such as Squash, Melons and Corn.

OTHER THINGS TO DO

Pruning season has arrived and a sharp tool makes a clean cut that heals readily. Check out our **Pruning Tool Renovation Service**, which includes cleaning and sharpening and replacing missing parts for most pruning tools. If you're unsure whether we can service your tool, bring it in for assessment.

Repot Orchids when they're through blooming every two to three years.

If you haven't done so already, move your containerized tender and tropical plants close to the house during the cold months.

Consider planting cover crops in unused garden spaces. Cover crops keep soil from compacting during winter rains and add much needed nitrogen to the soil when turned into beds in the spring. Popular cover crops

include Fava Beans, which are also edible, and Strawberry or Red Clover. We also feature **Winter Cover Crop Mix**, which includes Bell Beans, Magnus Peas and Purple Vetch. You can also plant Dwarf Snap Peas from cell packs about nine inches apart. The peas can be harvested and eaten and still provide all the soil benefits listed.

Fertilize container plants lightly with **Master Nursery ®Formula 49™** or **Citrus Food** or **Camellia, Azalea and Rhododendron Fertilizer** as is appropriate.

Consider watering indoor plants with two tablespoons of vinegar per one gallon of water once a month to reduce salt-build-up and lower pH and/or reduce alkalinity.

Tune up your house plants a couple of times a year. Wash dust and dirt off the leaves, check for bugs and flush the soil by running one or two quarts of water through the soil.

Most Hummingbirds don't migrate in this area so don't forget to continue feeding them through the winter.

OTHER THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

The Asian citrus psyllid has been discovered in Daly City and San Jose, as well as areas in Southern California, causing all their citrus plants to be quarantined. County and state departments of food and agriculture have begun treatment programs. This citrus psyllid spreads HUANGLONGBING disease (HLB).



In Florida, it has cost more than 6,600 jobs and an economic loss of an estimated \$3.6 billion. Adults of the Asian citrus psyllid are brownish in color, have lacy wings and feed on the undersides of the leaves. The eggs are yellow-orange and almond shaped. Leaves will show an asymmetrical yellow mottling with patches of green. The fruit will be smaller and lopsided, will drop more easily from the tree and will have a bitter taste. Residents who think they may have seen the pest should call the Pest Hotline at 800-491-1899.

It is against the law to trap squirrels and move them to a different area.

If you have planted tropical, evergreen milkweed plants in your garden to provide food for Monarch Butterflies, you should remove them. It turns out that the tropical milkweed plants harbor a parasite (*Ophryocystis elektroscirrha*) which will kill Monarch Butterflies.

Redwood City residents can learn more about the City's rain barrel rebates to save rain water for residential gardening; bawsca.org/conservation/rain-barrel-rebate-program.