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"Landscape Design~Construction~Property Management Since 1985!"

Your January "Garden Tips" **Professional Tips For Beautiful Landscapes**

Your landscape is a continuous source of pleasure, and we are thankful to help you maintain its beauty and integrity. But, that pleasure needn't stop with the bleak days of winter, especially if your landscape includes plants that offer interest even during the winter months. Moreover, you have the opportunity to continue your gardening, but indoors, with a variety of plants that offer healthful benefits for your family and intriguingly beautiful displays.



Professional Landscape Services

It is our pleasure to serve you and your landscape, and we look forward to a new season.

We are also grateful for assistance from the natural forces of alternate freezing and thawing during winter. This loosens the soil and also replenishes the top soil with fresh nutrients that help our efforts to maintain healthy plant growth.

If we have done well for you, we would appreciate any referrals you may care to give.

Further, we really covet your comments about our services so we can do even better for you in 2023!

It's time to review and order those landscape services that conserve & improve your enjoyment of your home!

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Gardening-On Indoors With Tough Plants

The criteria we suggest for indoor gardening are as follows:

The chosen plants should be easy to care for, even surviving some neglect. And, they should be pest-free as much as possible.

Tough houseplants originate in the tropics and under taller plants, so they can thrive in our heated homes and not need much light. We are presenting several varieties for your success.

Rhizomatous varieties are perfect for indoor gardening if you keep the container a bit small and shallow, and don't overwater.

The same holds true for *Kalanchoe* varieties, just as long as you place them in bright light, and limit their watering too! "Flaming Katy" variety blossoms prolifically throughout the winter for your enjoyment.

The greatest challenges to the health of houseplants are: improper watering, heat-dried air and cold drafts.

While houseplants are tropical and need frequent watering, you only water when the dirt is dry at the top inch. And it's best to use water that is at room temperature and has stood out for 24 hours to let the chemicals in the tap water evaporate.

Humidity levels can be raised by a mister, or placing plants in a tray with pebbles and water. Grouping plants together also helps.

Plants by windows tend to get chilled and should be moved away, and also any plants that are in a draft when doors are opened.

Light intensity is important; more light is needed for plants that produce blossoms. Plants will show you that they need more light by having pale foliage, lanky growth, and a generally weak appearance.

Seeing plants grow and bloom is a healthy delight in your home.



Rhizomatous Begonia



Kalanchoe

A Few Reminders



Frozen Grass

❑ **Winter Lawns Are Fragile...**

therefore, one should walk on them as little as possible when the blades are frozen.

❑ **Limit Salt Use . . .**while ice is dangerous and traction is needed for safety, try to use sand or kitty litter because excess salt flowing into soil hurts all growing plants.

❑ **Houseplants . . .** are growing slowly now, so don't fertilize, and keep watering to a minimum.

Also watch for insects. Wash them off and/or use a weak soap spray.

❑ **Do You Have A Live**

Holiday Tree? . . .

then it needs to be planted using dirt you stored inside. Give it some water, and pile leaves around the base to protect the vulnerable tender roots.

❑ **Birds & Water**

It's easy to serve up some seeds, bread and suet for your frolicking friends during the winter, but they also need fresh water desperately.

Winter Tree Pruning & Shaping

Most landscape owners forget about the care of their landscapes when winter comes.

In actuality, it is a prime time for pruning that doesn't get done during the season because of other concerns. Moreover, the skeleton of the tree is fully visible for quicker pruning for shape and getting rid of excess branching and dead branches.

One good reason for yearly thinning is that many tree varieties form dense branch growth which, when in full leaf, acts like a 'sail' and is subject to more wind damage, even being uprooted during seasonal storms.



Ornamental Tree ready to be shaped and thinned for healthy growth and better appearance.



Pruning Needed!

Winter is also a time for dangerous limb pruning, such as this limb threatening the house. But, less dramatic pruning of dead branches that can break off during winter storms is also in order. Of course, these examples would have been taken care of, economically, with yearly inspection and minor pruning or bracing. Trees that retain their integrity and fine appearance really do need fine pruning to start when they are young.

‘ Certified tree risk assessors can give a value for insurance purposes, but it's impossible to place the true value on a tree that is greatly damaged, or lost and cannot be replaced!

Beautiful Snow Fall: Potential Threat

Many of your shrubs cannot withstand a snow coating, which turns to heavy ice, without being damaged. Before winter, vulnerable plants can be wrapped and/or tied to stop the spreading of the foliage, which prevents breakage. Others can have the freshly fallen snow gently brushed off before ice forms.



Beautiful Threat

~ Indoor Tiny Gardens Just For Fun ~

Terrarium gardens have always been around, but they have been less popular recently. That's a shame, because they offer a style of imaginative gardening indoors that brings great satisfaction. The sky's the limit!

They are enjoyable; easy and fun to put together and can be changed on a whim. Check the internet for more info.



OPEN TERRARIUM



How About An Imaginative Dish Garden?



CLOSED TERRARIUM Creates Its Own Mini-Environment