



BETTER ENVIRONMENTS

HAPPY NEW YEAR—2009!

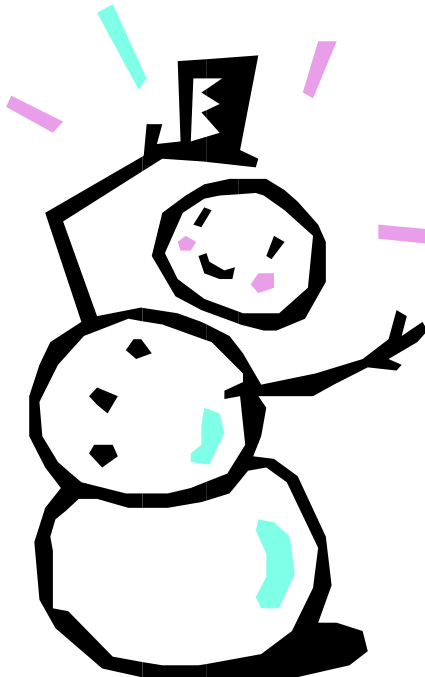
You'll value our views.



January Gardening Tips

- The garden is almost at a standstill this month. It's cold, wet, and dormant. Aside from transplanting, most outside gardening activity is limited to pruning and spreading soil amendments. Too much digging is not a good idea, since the soil still retains a good deal of water. Disturbing it too much will compact it and destroy its tilth.
- Plant bare root fruit and nut trees (except for citrus and avocados) through early March. Plant trees that have well-developed, fibrous root systems, a single well-shaped leader, and no serious bark injury.

Avoid trees with circling or tangled roots. Branches should be smaller than the trunk and growing from it at angles more horizontal than 45 degrees.



ENJOY THE COLD WEATHER WHILE IT LASTS!

- This is the big month for pruning deciduous fruit and nut trees. The height or width of the tree can also be reduced. Take care not to leave stubs or to over prune in any single year.
 - Plant cool-weather bedding flowers such as ageratums, alysum, bachelor's button, calendulas, candytuft, celosia, columbines, coreopsis, English daisy, delphiniums, dianthus, forget-me-nots, four-o'clocks, hollyhocks, larkspur, lunaria, pansies, Iceland poppies, salvias, snapdragons, stocks, sweet peas, sweet William, and native wildflowers.
 - Transplant agapanthus, hardy amaryllis, azaleas, bleeding

bare root roses, violas, violets, and wisteria.

- Divide and replant perennials.
 - Transplant established azaleas and camellias now.
 - Pinching dead blooms and feeding pansies and violas will keep them looking good and blooming for a longer period.
 - Prevent slug and snail problems by cleaning up wet leaf litter and garden debris. Place traps or scatter bait as necessary.
 - Spray dormant fruit trees to kill overwintering pests, following product label directions.
 - Mulch flower and vegetable beds.
- (celosangeles.ucdavis.edu)

Wildlife on Your Property

There are some things you can do to help prevent critters, such as raccoons, possums and skunks coming onto your property.

- Make sure your chimney is capped off.
- Do not leave out any garbage or leave fallen fruit on the ground.
- Make sure loose tiles and gaps under eaves are sealed or tightened down.
- Keep BBQ grills clean.
- Bring in pet food at night.
- Trim overhanging tree branches that may provide easy access to your roof or attic.
- Make sure all screens



are secure.

- Bright lights and loud radio music may dislodge them if they have moved in.
- Lock pet doors at night.



All About Roses

- While old-fashioned roses are often more hardy and easier to take care of than newer hybrid floribundas and teas, some modern varieties are deliciously fragrant.
- The seven basic scents most often found in hybrid tea roses are apple, clover, lemon, nasturtium, rose and violet.
- In general, the most highly scented roses are the ones that are darker in color, have more petals to the flower, or have thick, velvety petals. Reds and pinks tend to smell “like a rose”,

whites and yellows like lemon, nasturtium, violet, and oranges like clover.

- Fragrance is strongest early on warm, sunny days when the soil is moist. Only two varieties seem immune to the



vagaries of the weather—Chrysler Imperial and Sutter’s Gold; and are fragrant even on cool, cloudy days.

- Best cutting roses include Red: Mr. Lincoln, Olympiad, Viva, and Pink: America, Bewitched, Cherish, Color Magic, Duet, Sonia, Touch of Class, & Voodoo.
- When transplanting roses, add humus and pot-ash, but be spare with nitrogen fertilizers, as these hasten new foliage.
- Please call us to obtain your best choice of roses now.

South Coast Botanic Garden Activities

- January 4: Rose Pruning Demo—noon—4 p.m. Meet in the Rose Garden. Dress appropriately for the weather and wear comfortable shoes. Learn how to properly prepare your roses for the winter to ensure lovely blooms next spring and grow a healthy plant.
- January 11: Fruit Tree Pruning Demo—1 p.m.—4 p.m. Mr. Rick Wheeler, Certified Arborist, will



talk about pruning your trees for the winter. Meet in the Hall for a lecture and question & answer session. After that, you will head out to the orchard for a hands-on demonstration. Dress appropriately for the weather and wear comfortable shoes.

- January 8 & 10 at 10 a.m.: Children’s Discovery Garden. Nature’s Babies and Their Homes. The program will run

two hours. It is designed for children ages 2-6. Each program will include story time, potting, art, science, and a small garden tour. First come, first served. Attendance limited to 25 participants each day. www.southcoastbotanicgarden.org will have more information.

- There are many other classes scheduled for January; too many to list. Please call 310-544-1948 for more up-to-date information.

Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy

January 10: Hike at Point Fern, Tide Pools: 9 a.m.—11 a.m.—From Cabrillo Beach, walk along the rocky shoreline to see rock formations and tide pools. Call 310-541-7613 for more information.

Mixed Firewood Still

Available (while supplies last)

\$150 half-cord

\$220 full-cord



Keep warm and cozy during the winter months! Ask a neighbor to share. Free delivery in South Bay area (stacking at additional cost)

Tree Trimming

The cold and wet season is the perfect time to have your trees trimmed! It is the only time of year we can trim Pine, Eucalyptus and White Birch trees. Call today for your free estimate.

