

The Gardener

Gardening tips for February!

Many shrubs in your garden are dormant at this time and that can actually be beneficial to you because you can work with plants without causing shock to them.

Now is the time to make changes to your landscape, you can dig up and transplant dormant plants now if the ground is not frozen. Scope out the color in your landscape and enhance it with some evergreens for a more dramatic effect.

Add compost and peat moss to your flower gardens in preparation for your spring seeds. If you didn't get a chance to plant your spring blooming bulbs in the fall go ahead and plant them now. They'll come up just fine when the weather warms up.

Broken branches with uneven wounds should be cut off cleanly and coated with pruning tar to protect from insects and disease. Don't neglect your compost pile! Keep rotating it and adding leaves. Now is the time to plant fruit trees and vine fruits if the ground is not frozen. And cut your ornamental grasses before they start to send up new shoots.

When you get your seed potatoes cut into pieces with at least two eyes each, lay them out on newspaper or a cardboard box in one layer, let them dry to seal the cut and allow them to sprout before you plant. Plant onion sets, greens and peas at this time. Fertilize your fruit trees before spring bloom. And last but not least, sharpen, clean and oil your hand tools so they are ready when you are.