



Betty's Bloomers Nursery

Issue 22

November 15, 2006

Winter is Just Around the Corner.

It's time to think about gathering firewood for the fireplace, the menu for Thanksgiving and working on Christmas lists. We also need to think about protecting our tender plants that have thrived in the warm Summer months. But how do we know which ones need to be protected and which ones are just fine left alone during cold weather? Generally, plants that are native to the tropical regions need to be protected when the temperature drops below 40 degrees. These include plants grown as potted plants for indoors such as Ivy and Philodendrons, Closet Plants, Crotons, & Ficus. Some varieties of Fern and Palms also need protection.

If you have warm season annuals or vegetables that still are performing well, you can extend their life a little bit longer by covering them with a blanket or tarp on nights when a frost is predicted. Just remember to uncover them when the sun shines the next day.

It is not necessary to protect evergreen shrubs or perennial plants from cold weather. They rest through the Winter dormant season and are ready to sprout with the first warm days of Spring.

What's in Season?

Camellias and their cousins, Sasanquas are beginning to bloom now and throughout the Winter months. They can be planted in a partially well drained sunny area in a rich sandy loam soil.

Replace warm season Annual Bedding Plants with cold weather annuals such as Pansies, Snapdragons, Dianthus and Ornamental Cabbage for season long color.

We are growing a good crop of Poinsettias this year and we are currently booking quantity orders for Churches and Businesses. We sell on a "first come" basis, so give us a call soon.

To Do List:

Leaves are beginning to fall in our yards, and if your yard is like mine, there are not as many to rake this year due to Hurricane Rita. So, we need to use what we can for mulch or compost. Add the leaves directly to flower beds by layering 3 or 4 inches deep for cold compost, or prepare a compost pile that will decompose fast and will be ready to use by next Spring. Layering with manure or already composted soil and keeping it moist will speed the process of decomposition.

Dig Caladium bulbs now before the leaves die away and are harder to find. Remove the stems and leaves and wash all the dirt away from the bulbs. Allow to dry and then store in a dark area out of freezing temperatures until ready to replant next Spring.

Something Extra



Let us help with a centerpiece for your Thanksgiving table or bring a live plant dressed for the holiday to your Hostess. Call and place an order for a Tuesday or Wednesday pickup.

Contact us

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Happy Gardening!