



## December Gardening Tips

### Prune:

- ❖ Cut chrysanthemum stems to 2-3”

### Fertilize:

- ❖ Rake pine needles, toss under acid loving plants such as blueberries, azaleas, rhododendrons, hollies, raspberries, magnolia, camellias

### Spray:

- ❖ After leaves fall, spray raspberries, fruit + flowering trees with dormant spray to protect against insect damage

### Plant:

- ❖ Tulips + daffodils can still be planted

### Roses:

- ❖ When temps are steadily in the 20's, cover hybrid tea + grandiflora roses with a loose mix of compost + shredded leaves @ least 1' high, hold in place with chicken wire if necessary.
- ❖ Make sure the canes of climbing roses are secured to their supports
- ❖ Mound 5-6” soil around hearty roses

## Also:

- ❖ Cover strawberries, spinach, kale + other winter greens with row covers, then several inches of straw or sawdust
  - ❖ Scout for egg masses + other signs of trouble on trees + shrubs
  - ❖ Spray broadleaf evergreens with anti-desiccant to prevent dehydration from winter winds
  - ❖ Check corms + tubers you may have stored, toss any with disease or rot
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- Stay off frozen grass!