



THINGS TO CONSIDER FOR DECEMBER GARDENING

The Christmas Season is upon us! It is hard to believe that the year is almost over. I love this time of year because of the beautiful decorations that you see in malls, homes, and landscapes. Here are a few things to consider for the holiday season:

1. Using evergreen holly for decoration is ideal for this time of year. The bright red berries and glossy green leaves have become widely associated with Christmas. Hollies along with its berries provide a feasible and inexpensive method of decorating any home during the holiday season. So go outside and snip this beautiful greenery from your yard and spruce up the place!
2. This is a great time to grow Amaryllis. Amaryllis are beautiful, elegant flowers which are widely available this holiday season. You can buy them potted and ready to bloom or buy bulbs and watch them grow. The color options available have really grown. The varieties of bloom colors include whites, reds, and pinks and there are even some greens out there. You can use these plants as an arrangement on a table or mantel. They will warm up the place!
3. Don't forget about meeting the birds during this season. Why not get a bird feeder to encourage these wonders to visit your yard. Place them in a pot where you can enjoy watching the birds do their thing from a window, porch or deck.
4. Don't forget to add mulch to your garden. Add a two to three inch layer of shredded pine bark mulch or pine straw around your trees and spread them around your plants. The plants will appreciate the protection during the winter months. Do not pile the mulch up against the trunk of the tree or the stems of the plants. In other words, no volcano mulching!
5. How about purchasing gifts for the gardener in your life? Watering containers, gloves, tools and subscriptions to garden magazines make great holiday gifts for gardeners. They will appreciate it. Trust me, I do!

I hope that you all have a joyous holiday season and Happy New Year!

Until next year, happy gardening!



Christopher Caputo