

January 2022 Gardener's Corner

By Cate White, SJ County Master Gardener

Taking a month's break for the holidays, I am only contributing the monthly Garden Checklist for January's column. Let's all hope we continue to get enough rain in the next few months to be able to give our gardens plenty of water this coming spring and summer!

January Garden Checklist

- Plant bare-root shrubs, trees and roses.
- Peas, parsley, lettuce, mustard and radishes can be planted from seed as early as January. Most of these, excluding radishes which grow quickly from seed, can also be planted as young plant starts. You can also plant asparagus rhizomes and white potato slips.
- Apply a second dose of fungicide to peaches and nectarines to control leaf curl. (The first dose should be around Christmas or New Year's Day.)
- Prune deciduous trees and shrubs (such as apple, pear, crepe myrtle, roses and stone fruits), encouraging good form and structure. Remove dead, diseased and borer infested wood, then spray with horticultural oil (found in most nurseries) to discourage over-wintering pests and diseases.
- Continue monitoring and baiting for snails, slugs and ants. Snail bait that is iron-based is safer around pets.
- Adjust watering schedules according to weather. Remember not to water within 48 hours of measurable rain. If you have plants growing under eaves and in entryways where they do not get rain, water occasionally by hand.
- Protect sensitive plants from frost with covers or by bringing under shelter.
- Peas, parsley, lettuce, mustard and radishes can be planted from seed as early as January. Most of these, excluding radishes which grow quickly from seed, can also be planted as young plant starts. Asparagus rhizomes can be planted in January, and white potatoes can be planted as slips from January to March.