



Winterizing your Landscape

We at Silver Mist Garden Center are concerned as much as you about the investment you've made this year, with the purchase of your plant material. The following information is a general guideline for protecting this investment.

There are some plants that can have a difficult time on their own surviving our winters. The following list of those plants and the steps to take to help them through our winters will hopefully give the plants a better chance of surviving.

First of all, every plant in your landscape should be receiving an inch of water per week up until the ground freezes. So before you put that hose away for the winter or shut off your sprinkler system make sure to give ALL your plants a good soaking. Especially evergreens.

Evergreens:

Give them a good soaking of water.

Alberta Spruce

Spray with Wilt Pruf

Cover entire plant with burlap to protect against winter winds.

Hemlock

Spray with Wilt Pruf

Broadleaf Evergreens

Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Hollies

Should be sprayed with Wilt Pruf. The Rhododendrons and Azaleas should be covered with burlap to protect from winter desiccation. Also, put a mulch of peat moss around the base of these two types of plants and in the spring work this into the ground around the plants. Apply some Soil Sulphur or Copperas into the soil in spring.

Boxwoods

Should also be sprayed with Wilt Pruf and then covered with burlap or evergreen boughs to help protect them from winters damaging winds.

Burning Bush (Euonymus) and Viburnum

Rabbits love Burning Bush and all types of Viburnums. We at Silver Mist Garden Center highly recommend an enclosure of hardware cloth around these types of plants to protect them from hungry rodents during the winter months.



Fruit Trees/ Smooth Bark Trees

Fruit Trees

Crab trees, Apple, Pear etc. are trees that need to be protected with tree wrap and hardware cloth during the winter. Not only to protect them from sun scale (Cracking) but also rodent and deer damage.

Smooth Barked Trees

Ash, Maple, Locust etc. need protection of tree wrap over the winter. Especially young trees. This wrapping helps protect the trees against sun scald or Frost Crack on the trunk. This cracking in many cases can lead to the death of a young tree. Remove tree wrap in spring

Roses

This beautiful blooming plant can be tricky to overwinter in Wisconsin. So please talk to the expert staff at Silver Mist Garden Center to see if there are any steps you should take this fall to successful overwintering.

Ground Covers

Some types of ground covers are necessary to cover for the first couple winters until they become established. Evergreen boughs are fine for this – a thin layer – tip to tip is sufficient.

“Newly” Planted Perennials

We at Silver Mist Garden Center highly recommend a covering of mulch of evergreen boughs to protect these new plants in your landscape. This helps protect plants from any heaving and thawing.

Because our unpredictable winters in Wisconsin, these steps to help protect your landscape are not a guarantee of their survival. But we at Silver Mist Garden Center highly recommend each and every one of these steps to help protect your investment.

If at any time you have any questions about winterizing your landscape please give us a call and ask to speak to one of our Horticulturist on staff. We will be happy to assist you in any way we can.