



OGDEN'S DESIGN & PLANTINGS, INC.

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TEL: (631) 473-5064

WINTER GARDEN PREPARATION

Design & Installation:

- Natural Gardens
- Japanese Gardens
- Bed Maintenance
- Therapeutic Gardens
- Paths & Patios
- Stone & Brickwork
- Specialty Gardens
- Seasonal Color & Interest

October To-Do List:

- Plant spring flowering bulbs before first frost
- Plant or transplant deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs
- Water evergreens thoroughly to prevent winter injury
- Wait to winterize irrigation systems until Thanksgiving
- Plant bulbs for indoor forcing
- Bring houseplants in
- Plant fall annuals

Ogdenwords:

Desiccative: removing moisture from something.

Calyces: (plural of calyx) groups of modified leaves enclosing a flower bud.

Drupe: a fruit with a thin outer skin, soft pulpy middle, and hard stony central part that encloses a seed.

As the year draws to a close we need to think about what to do in our gardens to minimize the impact of winter. Fall is an ideal time to evaluate your garden and make planting/transplanting changes. By the end of November or early December you can put your gardens 'to bed' for the winter.

The soil remains active through December, and plants' roots continue to develop while the ground is warm and the air is cool. Thus, now is a great time to transplant trees, shrubs and perennials as well as install spring-flowering bulbs such as tulips and daffodils.



Once temperatures consistently drop into the low 40's you can plan your final clean up. First, begin by tidying the garden: pulling weeds and any annuals that have finished blooming, cut back herbaceous perennials and rake leaves. All leaves should be removed since they can harbor disease and insects as well as create moisture problems. Finally, the beds can be mulched. This helps to protect plants from freezing temperatures and reduces soil erosion.

No heavy shearing or pruning of shrubs

should be done at this time. A little tip pruning and the cutting of a random branch is fine. If you heavily shear a shrub now, it will often suffer winter damage and end up either dead or severely stunted in the spring.

If you have deer that browse through your garden over the winter, now would be a good time to install protective fencing or burlap. Burlap is also beneficial in protecting some broadleaf evergreens from desiccative wind/sun.

The lawn should be fertilized and you should continue to mow it if it's still growing; but don't cut it shorter than 2.5"-3". This is also a great time of year to start a compost pile and to winterize your irrigation system, hoses and gardening tools.

On mild winter days, it is still good to stroll through the garden monitoring winter damage and plant activity. Light pruning and selective watering are some chores for the winter months. With extra care and attention spent on the garden now, you will have an easier time in the spring. If the task is too big for you or you need advice, give us a call, we'd be happy to help.

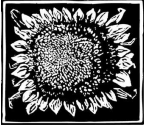


Winter Greenery

It's time to start planning for the holiday season! We can provide you with all your winter greenery needs: roping, wreaths, pine cones, swags and bows.

Call now to order.

**For Help with Garden Chores
Call (631) 473-5064**



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BE PREPARED

Plant of the Month

Common name: Seven Son Flower

Scientific name: *Heptacodium miconioides* (hep-tuh-KOH-dee-um mik-on-ee-OY-deez)

Family name: (Caprifoliaceae)



Description: Multi-stemmed deciduous shrub.

Mature size & growth rate: 15-20' tall, 10' spread. Fast growth rate.

Flower: Terminal clusters of fragrant, creamy-white flowers in late summer/early fall. Flowers appear in whorls with each whorl containing seven tiny flowers (hence the common name).

Cultural requirements: Full sun to part shade. Hardy. Tolerates many soil types.

Native Habitat: Native to China but rare in the wild.

Additional comments: Although it's most valued for its late season fragrant flowers, other wonderful attributes include: purplish-red fruits (1/2" long drupes) that appear in fall surrounded by large red calyces, purple leaves, exfoliating bark and flowers that are a good source of nectar for butterflies.