

Colorado State University Extension
Tri River Area Gardening Calendar for January 2016

The following dates of activities are approximate for the Grand Junction area. Other areas in Western Colorado will need to adjust their dates accordingly. Many of these topics are covered in fact sheets from Colorado State University.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Happy New Year!!!		<p>Register for the <u>Master Gardener Apprentice Class</u> Now! Call Susan at 244-1841</p>	<p>Pruning of trees and shrubs should be delayed until just before bud break in the spring. Fruit trees are best pruned in mid-February to mid-March to permit the safe application of a dormant oil spray.</p>	<p>When we receive the unusual heavy snow, be sure to knock any accumulated snow off evergreens and other woody plants. Arborvitae and other columnar evergreens can be protected from damaging winter snows by wrapping the plant with rope to pull the branches together.</p>		<p>In those areas in Western Colorado where snow cover is lacking lawns, trees, shrubs, flower and vegetable gardens should be watered.</p>
Week 1						
<p>Pines or spruces with a dead top should be pruned in the spring to avoid having multiple tops. A dead top can be corrected by bending one of the branches from the next lower whorl up and tying it loosely to the dead top. Pinch back the candles on the other branches in that same whorl to prevent them from competing with the branch you have selected to become the new terminal shoot.</p>		<p>As days become longer greenhouse plants will begin to become more active. Avoid the tendency to overwater these plants especially in a cool greenhouse or on overcast days. Overwatered plants that are then subjected to cool night temperatures are more likely to have problems with edema.</p>	<p>When watering houseplants, water thoroughly so that water drains into the saucer. Dump or drain the water out of the saucer to prevent this salt laden water from being sucked back up into the root zone of the plant through capillarity.</p>	<p>Bulbs that had been potted up earlier in the fall and buried outdoors or placed in a cool cellar can be brought inside and allowed to bloom</p>		<p>Placing plants in the bathtub and spraying the foliage with tepid water cleans the foliage and helps provide humidity. Allowing tepid water to run through the soil and out the drainage holes helps reduce soil salt problems increasing the ability of the plant to take up much needed water during these dry winters.</p>
Week 2						

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<p>Roses that have not yet been protected with 9 to 12 inches of mulch should be covered now. This will help prevent the dehydration of the canes and graft union. Water roses thoroughly prior to applying the mulch.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">Western Colorado Horticulture Society Conference and Tours</p> <p style="text-align: center;">http://coloradofruit.org/program.html</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Western Colorado Horticulture Society Conference and Tours.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">http://coloradofruit.org/program.html</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">January 19th Master Gardener Apprentice Class Begins Today!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ute Water Conservancy District Building</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9 am to 4 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Registration Required</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">January 20</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5th Annual Western Slope Food & Farm Forum</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Montrose Pavilion, Montrose, CO</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">January 21</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5th Annual Western Slope Food & Farm Forum</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Montrose Pavilion, Montrose, CO</p>

Week 3

<p>Individuals planning on purchasing seedling trees and shrubs from the CSU Extension are encouraged to get their orders in as soon as possible as the supplies of these Low cost seedlings are limited. Call your local extension office for information.</p>		<p>If you have a cold frame containing biennials and young perennials it should be ventilated when the temperature inside the frame become too high on sunny days. Prop the cover up long enough to drop the temperature and keep these plants dormant</p>	<p>Excessive dryness of the home due to artificial heat can be counteracted by the use of a humidifier and pebble trays placed under houseplants. Keep the pebble tray full of water but not so that this water will be in contact with the bottom of the pot.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">January 26th Master Gardener Apprentice Class 9 am to 4 pm</p>	<p>Poinsettias that have finished flowering can be cut back and the water reduced. Drying this plant out completely as recommended in some other parts of the world often results in the total death of the plant due to Western Colorado's semi-arid low humidity</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The low light conditions of mid-winter result in poor leggy growth on many houseplants. Providing supplemental light and rotating the pots to ensure a more even distribution of light helps</p>
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Week 4

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Mesa County Extension office
2775 Highway 50
Grand Junction, CO 81503
970-244-1834

Delta County Extension office
525 Dodge Street
Delta, CO 81416
970-874-2195

Montrose County Extension office
1001 N. Second Street
Montrose, CO 81401
970-249-3935

Colorado State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Delta, Mesa, Montrose and Ouray counties cooperating, Extension Programs are available to all without discrimination.

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