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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Institute of Agriculture
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

YARD 'N' GARDEN



EXTENSION
HORTICULTURISTS

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PREVENTING WINTER INJURY TO ORNAMENTALS

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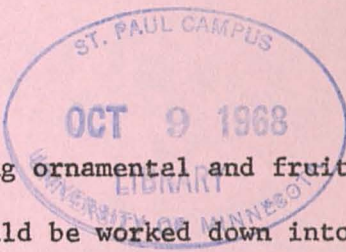
For use week of
October 14

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Smooth barked trees should be wrapped in the fall to prevent sunscald, which occurs in late winter. The trees may be wrapped with commercial tree wrap, burlap strips, or aluminum foil. Tie the wrapping material with twine. Remove the wrap in the spring.

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Cylinders of hardware cloth placed around young ornamental and fruit trees will prevent winter rodent damage. The cylinder should be worked down into the soil to prevent mice from coming up underneath. The cylinder should be large enough to accommodate several years' growth. Check to see that existing screens are down into the soil.



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If hay is used as a winter mulch, poison mouse baits should be used. Place it under the mulch or in bait stations to prevent other birds and animals from getting it. Mice will eat the bark from many plants, but are especially fond of flowering crabapples, fruit trees, roses and clematis.

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The diseased foliage of perennials should be removed and burned in the fall. This eliminates overwintering insects and diseases that infect the plants in the spring. If the foliage has to be removed, the plants should be covered with a winter mulch.

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If the foliage of plants is not diseased, it may be left to stand over winter. It serves as winter protection to the plant. The foliage stops snow, adding more protection.

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