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YARD 'N' GARDEN



EXTENSION  
HORTICULTURISTS

Prepared and distributed  
by the Minnesota Agricultural  
Extension Service

For Use Week of  
October 13, 1969

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE • UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

### PROTECTING WOODY ORNAMENTALS FOR WINTER

Protect trees in grassy areas from winter rodent damage by placing an eighteen inch cylinder of one-quarter inch hardware cloth around the trunk. Work the cylinder into the soil about an inch to prevent mice from coming up underneath. The diameter of the cylinder should be large enough to accommodate several year's growth.

\* \* \* \*

You can protect shrubs in mulched beds from mouse damage by placing poison baits in pet proof stations but be careful not to expose the bait to birds. Use mouse bait when covering roses.

\* \* \* \*

Flowering crabapples, mountain ash and pears are especially susceptible to later winter sunscald. Wrap the trunks of these trees with commercial tree wrap, burlap strips or aluminum foil to prevent sunscald injury. Secure the wrapping material with twine, and remove the wrap in the spring.

\* \* \* \*

Evergreens lose water during the winter so water them generously in the fall to help them winter better. This is important for evergreens in the foundation planting, since soil in this area is especially dry. A mulch around the base of fall planted trees and evergreens helps them survive their first winter.

\* \* \* \*

Most garden roses require winter protection and several methods are commonly used in Minnesota. These are outlined in the Horticulture Fact Sheet No. 17, "Culture of Garden Roses," which is available at your county extension office.

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