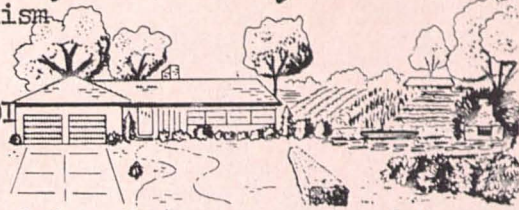


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Yard 'n' Garden



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WINTER PROTECTION IN THE GARDEN

Winter protection means several things. First of all, it means taking the necessary precautions against the climate, including certain variations of weather during winter. But it also means protecting plants against rodents.

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Of course the proper winter protection begins with selection of hardy plant materials. This is built-in protection and is based on several years of observation under our Minnesota conditions. Talk to your local county agricultural agent about publications on hardy trees and shrubs.

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A mulch over the flower border will help to insulate against low temperatures and avoid freezing and thawing. The mulch should be 6 to 8 inches deep. Apply it after the soil is slightly frozen. However, avoid exposing the plants to an extreme temperature drop.

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To keep mice from being a problem, use a poison bait. Many good baits can be purchased which are harmless to pets and wildlife.

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Rabbit repellents can be put on in late October to discourage feeding on the bark of ornamental plantings.

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