

Ramsey County Master Gardeners

Garden Advice Through The Seasons

WINTER

In this Newsletter

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- Caring for houseplants
- Holiday insect pests
- Be salt-smart
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Events with Master Gardeners

Upcoming Garden Classes - January / February / March

Come learn what you need to know about pruning trees, caring for houseplants, and more. [Find a class](#)

White Bear Lake Winter Farmers Market - January 11

Local farmers and producers bring their best for the White Bear Lake Winter (Indoors) Farmers Market at [Tamarack Nature Center](#). [Learn More](#)

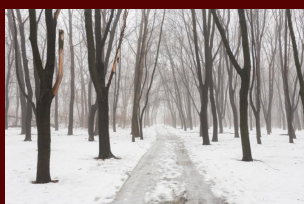
Emerging Farmers' Conference - January 25

Bring your questions to this event, which aims to advance the success and sustainability of local farmers. [Learn More](#)

St. Paul Home and Patio Show - February 15-16

Let us answer your garden questions at this annual event, where you'll find inspiration for your home and garden. [Get Tickets](#)

Winter Garden Information



The Benefits of Snow Cover

Love it or hate it, snow actually has several benefits for yard and garden plantings. Two to 4 inches of snow can raise the soil's surface temperature 30 to 35 degrees Fahrenheit, which has all sorts of benefits for those things that live in the ground.

[Learn More](#)



Check holiday greenery for pests

Your holiday greenery may smell and look beautiful, but keep an eye out for insects and diseases that can be transported on these plants when shipped into Minnesota from other parts of the country. Know how to find and what to do if your holiday decorations have Elongate hemlock scale, Oriental bittersweet, Boxwood blight, or Gypsy moths. [Learn More](#)



Lawns-to-Legumes Program

Want to create more pollinator habitat in your yard this spring? The state-funded [Lawns to Legumes](#) program will provide funding and recommendations to turn your lawn into bee habitat. Applications are being accepted through February 28.

[Learn More](#)



Feed The Birds ... or Not

Many people set out bird feeders during the winter. For the most part, this is wonderful for our residential winter birds, but there are some things to consider when you want to help our feathery friends during the cold months. [Learn More](#)



Caring for Holiday Plants

Poinsettia, holiday cacti, amaryllis, and paperwhites - We provide you with the information you know to help these plants thrive through the winter season and beyond. [Learn More](#)

Consider adding some flowers to your home while we wait for spring by [Forcing Bulbs](#) like tulips, dafodils, and hyacinths.

Give your Christmas Tree a Second Life

Once the holidays are over, most Christmas trees end up in landfills or yard waste sites. Extend their value through the winter by using them to create an outdoor feeder for local



wildlife. [Watch how](#)



Being Salt-Smart this Winter

Improperly maintained, icy roads, sidewalks, parking lots and driveways can cause debilitating falls, car accidents, and create liability issues. But before you pull out your deicing salts to make conditions safer,

consider the impact of these chemicals on our plants and our waterways. [Learn More](#)



Winter Reading

Nothing like a cold day in Minnesota to sit by the fire with a good book. Days spent dreaming of warmer days are the best time to learn and plan for the spring to come. (It will!) Consider one of our Extension Educators' favorite books. [Read More](#)



New Food Scraps Drop-off Locations

Need to get rid of excess food scraps after the holidays? Visit on of the new locations now available in Maplewood, New Brighton, Roseville, and Vadnais Heights. [Read More](#)

Food Scraps Collection Survey

Ramsey and Washington counties are seeking input from residents to help guide the development of a new program. Individuals will not be identified in survey results. [Provide Feedback](#)



Garden Resources & Services

Public Garden Classes

Classes cover myriad topics and are often hosted by public libraries and community education programs. [Find a class](#)

Master Gardeners On Facebook

Follow Ramsey County Master Gardeners on Facebook for updates about local events, interesting researching, and timely garden suggestions. [Find us on Facebook](#)

Food Scrap Drop-off Sites

Keep composting through the winter to keep food scraps out of our landfills. [Find a Location Near You](#)

Ask A Garden Expert Online & Phone Services

The University of Minnesota Extension program's Ask-An-Expert can help you answer your garden-related question by phone or using an online form. [Ask An Expert Now](#)

Yard and Garden News

The Yard and Garden News from the University of Minnesota Extension Consumer Horticulture Team features current, research-based information and best practices important to Minnesota gardeners. [Subscribe Today](#)



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