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Winter Rose Pruning Workshop

January 15, 2011
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Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for January

"Let nature be your teacher." - William Wordsworth

The narcissus perfume the chilly air with intoxicating scents, the sprouting mushrooms are fungus umbrellas for the garden fairies and tired rose bushes beg for branch reduction. With the merriment of the holidays now memories of a bygone season, we forge into the future with high hopes of a brighter economy and hospitable weather. With only a few things to do in the garden in January, perhaps you can settle in for a long winter's nap.

- **RECYCLE** your Christmas tree through the waste services program.
- **CUT** your final bouquets of roses and blooming perennials for indoor enjoyment.
- **PROTECT** plants from freezing by covering with tarps, blankets, or plastic.
- **PRUNE** your roses, berries, geraniums, fruit trees, crepe myrtles, and other woody perennials before the end of the month. This is the time for severe cutting.
- **SHARE** your rose canes with garden friends. After cutting the canes 12 inches or shorter, dip in a rooting solution before planting.
- **COMPOST** kitchen scraps, ashes, coffee, tree, and all organic materials.
- **READ** garden magazines and bulb catalogues.
- **DREAM** about the garden environment you've always wanted.
- **VISIT** winter gardens in other areas to gather ideas.
- **MOVE** Christmas azaleas and cactus to a patio or porch.
- **DECLUTTER** your shed or garage in anticipation of spring action.
- **SHARPEN** your tools, clean, oil, and store.
- **PLANT** color spots of cyclamen, azaleas, bergenia, and pansies.
- **MOVE** potted conifers outdoors in preparation for the next holidays.
- **PLAN** your garden. If you fail to plan, you plan to fail. Write SMART goals.
- **BUY** new rubber boots for those muddy slopes.
- **HARVEST** beets, potatoes, and turnips before the freezes.
- **ENJOY** the beautiful blossoms of cymbidium orchids in your home décor.
- **CELEBRATE** 2011 in style and with substance by being organic.

Remember, don't be intimidated by last year's mistakes. Failure is fertilizer. Throw your "malfatti's" on the compost pile and grow a new garden.

Explore, experiment, experience. Happy New Year!
Happy gardening to you!

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Cynthia Brian

The Goddess Gardener

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Cynthia is available as a speaker and consultant.

