

Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for January

BE AWARE of coyotes. I have had numerous reports of coyotes jumping backyard fences or digging under them to grab cats, chickens, rabbits and small dogs. Since the autumn fires, food is sparse and the coyotes are roaming neighborhoods.

READ this Asbestos and Natural Disasters Guide that covers the impact of wildfires on structures made with asbestos:
www.asbestos.com/asbestos/natural-disasters/
 California-specific: www.asbestos.com/states/california

DRY branches from tree trimmings for kindling.

BRIGHTEN your landscape, porch, or balcony by planting primroses which come in a variety of colors.

REPAIR broken pipes and irrigation systems while you have time.

PLANT bare root roses and fruit trees. Follow instructions on the packaging. Soak roots for a full 24 hours and cut off broken roots. Plant the bud union 3 inches above the ground.

REPOT potted plants you received as gifts of the holiday. Remove wrapping to allow for good drainage. Trim spent blossoms, water, and fertilize regularly.

REEDUCATE yourself about mulch:

www.akhomeshow.com/mulch-information-guide.php

REST. It is winter and time for a break. Sit by the fire on non-Spare the Air days. Drink hot cocoa or hot mulled wine. Dream a green dream.



The peace lily, also known as a sail plant, boasts a white flower that resembles a sail.



Red clover adds nitrogen naturally to lawns or wherever planted.



Ferns provide cover for frogs, toads, and turtles.