Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for December

- **FERTILIZE** trees, shrubs, and ground covers.
- **APPLY** snail bait to areas where slugs and snails do damage.
- **SPREAD** elemental sulfur to citrus, azalea, rhododendron, camellia, and hydrangea to lower the soil PH.
- **DEEP** feed smaller shrubs to accelerate growth in the gaps of hedges.
- **ADD** a swath of fluorescent red, white or pink cyclamen to add pops of color to the winter landscape.
- **DEADHEAD** roses to extend blooming until heavy pruning in January or if you prefer, allow the rosehips to form. Rosehips are a source of vitamin C and can be harvested for tea.
- STUFF stockings with gardening goodies including a hand trowel, gloves, seeds and a garden guide. "Growing with the Goddess Gardener" offers 12 months of helpful advice and comes with free seed packets and a relaxing CD.

www.CynthiaBrian.com/online-store

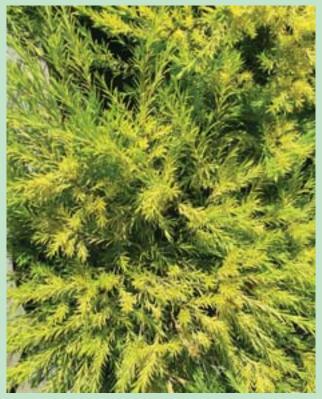
- **CUT** branches of berries from heavenly bamboo, cotoneaster, holly, or pyracantha to add to mantels and wreaths.
- **RAKE** leaves from lawns to keep them from matting.
- **MOVE** mower to a higher cutting level and don't mow when the ground is too wet.
- **PROTECT** tender plants from frost and freeze by moving potted plants inside or close to the house.
- **BUY** camellias now in the colors to suit your landscape décor while they are stocked as blooming specimens in nurseries.
- **CUT** back chrysanthemums to six inches after blooms fade.
- **PLANT** any remaining spring-blooming bulbs.
- **CELEBRATE** your home and garden for the holidays!



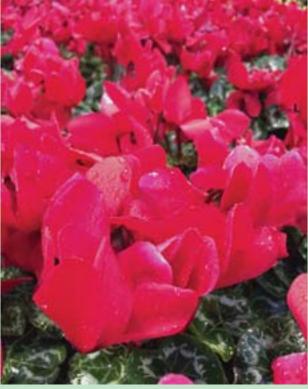
Hachiya persimmons are ripe to make a yummy Christmas pudding.



Incorporate the red berries of heavenly bamboo holiday wreaths and arrangements.



Golden Breath of Heaven (coloeonem pulchrum) translates to "pretty" in Latin will bear pink flowers.



The fluorescent red cyclamen illuminates any holiday landscape.

Photos Cynthia Brian