



GETTING TREES AND SHRUBS READY FOR WINTER

Before the first snowfall, you should make sure that your trees and shrubs have everything they need to survive the winter. In this article, we will discuss three important points: protecting young trees, using mulch and the ideal time to prune branches.

HOW TO PROTECT YOUNG TREES

Winter is a difficult time not only for plants, but for animals as well, as there is less food available, especially for herbivores such as hares. When snow falls in thick layers, hares are forced to change their food preferences to bark and shoots of trees and shrubs. For the most part, hares prefer oaks and maples. They are also partial to gnawing on the bark of apple, pear and willow trees. Young trees are also very susceptible to frostbite, which causes the bark to split longitudinally. This is why it is important to protect the trunks of your young trees before the onset of winter.

There are several ways to protect the trunks of your trees:

- » Perforated plastic spirals
- » Wire mesh to prevent rodents from damaging the bark
- » Fixed wooden slats
- » Protective cloth

USING MULCH

Adding mulch to your garden beds can go a long way to protecting your plants, and fall is an ideal time to do this. Laying mulch around trees protects the roots from freezing and thawing, and also keeps the soil moist, in addition to suffocating weeds.

Don't forget to place the mulch a few centimetres away from the base of the trunk of the tree or shrub so as not to affect its growth and to avoid excessive humidity that could lead to the proliferation of fungi at the base of the plants. A thickness of 7 to 10 cm is recommended.



PRUNING OF BRANCHES

When we are thinking about pruning our trees, the first question we should ask ourselves is whether there is an ideal time to do so. The best time to prune a tree is in early spring, when the tree is still dormant. Why is this? Because the summer period that follows will offer the advantage of rapid healing of the cuts. On the other hand, pruning in the fall can lead to the development of diseases in some trees, since the tracks created by the cuts serve as a passageway for bacteria and fungi.



A QUICK REMINDER

Fall is an ideal time to identify and remove the invasive **buckthorn shrub** from your property. Buckthorn (*Rhamnus carthartica*) is a small shrub that can grow up to 6 m tall. It produces small, black, highly purgative fruits. The two species are native to Europe and were introduced for ornamental purposes. Considered pretty, decorative shrubs, these species are, however, **very invasive** and are detrimental to the regeneration of certain woodlands in southern Québec, particularly in Montréal.





MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER FROM TOWN HALL

What's New!

Daphné Arias-Guillemette



Special thanks to all the residents who participated in the Halloween contests!

We were able to see many haunted houses and animals dressed up in the streets of our beautiful town.



MORGAN ARBORETUM REFUND PROGRAM



REMINDER: The citizens of Baie-D'Urfé can now benefit from a refund of one-third (1/3) of the 2021-22 annual subscription fees at the Morgan Arboretum for a maximum of 30\$ per residence.

You must show proof of membership at the Arboretum and proof of residency at town hall reception **before June 30, 2022**, to receive a discount.

TEMPORARY CAR SHELTERS

WE REMIND YOU THAT THE INSTALLATION OF TEMPORARY CAR SHELTERS IS **PROHIBITED** IN THE TOWN OF BAIE-D'URFÉ.

