



THE Arbor-Nomics® BUGGETTE



5 Ornamental Trees & Shrubs for Lovely Winter Scenery

After the last of the autumn leaves have faded and fallen, the winter landscape can seem dull and dreary. But it doesn't have to be that way. There are many ornamental trees and shrubs suited to our climate that provide color and interest all year long – including winter. Here are five of our favorites.



- 1 **Firethorn** – Also known as pyracantha, firethorn is a thorny evergreen shrub that belongs to the rose family. Its pretty white flowers during spring and summer give way to gorgeous, thick clusters of crimson berries that provide a burst of color all winter long. The hardy, drought-tolerant shrub is also very easy to grow.
- 2 **Junipers** – Want a fast-growing evergreen to enliven your winter landscape? Junipers are a good choice. These cold-hardy trees and shrubs, which are picturesque in any season, produce blue and purple berries during the cold months. The berries, in turn, attract colorful cardinals, blue jays, and other songbirds – adding another layer of interest to the winter scenery.
- 3 **Red Twig Dogwood** – This unique bush looks beautiful in every season. Enjoy fragrant white blossoms in the spring, bluish-white berries in the summer and fall, and absolutely stunning, brilliant red branches all winter long.
- 4 **Winterberry** – The winterberry shrub is a species of holly. But unlike the holly many of us associate with Christmas, the winterberry sheds its leaves in the fall and gives rise to dense clusters of cheerful, bright red berries.
- 5 **Yew Tree** – This majestic evergreen is known for its long life, with some enduring for 600 years. While its needles and seeds are toxic to many animals, its berry-like seed coverings, called arils, are not. In fact, the gorgeous red arils not only lend a pop of color to the season, but also attract a host of winter birds that safely feed on them.

Wrapping Up 2021 and Greeting 2022 – with Gratitude

Well, it's been another challenging year of pandemic life. Hopefully, as we enter the holiday season, you and your family have much to celebrate and to be thankful for.

Among the things that all of us at Arbor-Nomics are grateful for is the amazing loyalty of our customers. Our heartfelt wishes go out to you and your family for a joyous holiday and a happy, healthy new year.



Join Arbor-Nomics! We are hiring Certified Landscape Specialists and Outside Sales Representatives. Visit Arbor-Nomics.com/JoinOurTeam for more information.

Bare in Mind

by Josh Bare



Ever notice how some ordinary things provoke strong “for” or “against” reactions? Take cilantro or cats, for example. People tend to either love or hate them. I think the same can be said for winter, and even more specifically, snow. If you're an adult who has to drive in it (remember our snowpocalypse of 2014?), you're probably not a fan. But for a kid who might get a day off from school and the rare opportunity to play in the snow, winter can seem magical.

No matter how you feel about it, there's no denying that winter, like each of the other seasons, has its own unique brand of “magic” or wonder. So, I thought I'd share some winter fun-facts to help take the bite out of our chilliest season.

People born during winter are less irritable. While people born during the spring and summer months

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December Care

Application #7 for all programs.

Please note: Weather conditions may force us to modify our treatments or our application schedule.

LAWN TREATMENTS

Weed Control

All Programs. Bermuda, Fescue, and Zoysia lawns received an application of weed control.

Fertilization

All Programs. Fescue lawns received a special blended fertilizer that nourishes both mature grass and the new growth resulting from fall aeration and overseeding.

Soil pH Control

All Programs. All lawns received a calcium-magnesium mix to help maintain optimal soil pH. Turfgrasses do best in neutral soil (5.5 – 6.5 pH); however, natural processes tend to make soil more acidic over time. Today's application reduces acidity, promoting healthier, more vigorous turf.

Disease Control

Silver Plus, Gold Plus & Platinum.

Zoysia lawns were treated with a fungicide to control Zoysia patch, a common and fast-spreading fungal disease. **If you're on our Silver or Gold program, contact us right away if you see discolored patches in your lawn.** This could be a fungal disease. We'll make a FREE service call to check out your lawn and provide an estimate for treatment.

ORNAMENTAL TREE & SHRUB TREATMENTS

Pest Control

Gold, Gold Plus & Platinum. We treated ornamental trees and shrubs with dormant oil to protect them from destructive pests that overwinter in these plants. We'll apply a second treatment with Application #1 in the new year.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO UNTIL OUR NEXT VISIT

Keep Lawns Free of Leaves

Leaf build-up makes the treatments we apply less effective. It can also smother lawns and promote diseases.

Raise Your Mower Blade

For warm-season grasses, including Bermuda and Zoysia, increase the height of your mower blade about a half-inch. Letting grass grow a little longer allows it to store up more nutrients to get through winter and flourish in the spring. It's safe to mow shortly after we've treated your lawn; just be sure the grass is dry to the touch.

Water Wisely

It's okay to water your lawn in December if it seems dry. But be sure to drain and shut down your irrigation system if freezing temps are predicted. No one wants burst pipes!

QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR SERVICE OR YOUR YARD?

If you have any questions concerning your lawn, ornamental trees, shrubs or our service, please call Customer Service, Monday – Friday, 8 am – 5 pm at 770.447.6037 or email us at info@arbor-nomics.com. If you call after hours, leave a message and we'll return your call the next business day.

2022 Pricing Change

Since Arbor-Nomics was founded, we have been committed to high-quality products and superior service provided by our employees. We take pride in our work and want to continue serving you to the very best of our ability.

As you may know, many businesses are experiencing labor shortages and supply chain problems that

make materials more expensive. Unfortunately, the lawn care industry is no exception. As a result, at the beginning of 2022, you'll be noticing a price increase on your annual bill.

To help offset this increase, **you can pre-pay for 2022 in full and we'll discount your bill by 5%.** You should have received an email from offers@arbor-nomics.com between the last week of October and the first week of November with your discounted pre-pay rate. You can mail us a check or make a secure credit card payment online. We accept Visa, Mastercard and Discover.

Pre-payments help us to budget and plan as a new calendar year gets underway. Therefore, while we still welcome and thank those of you who prefer to pay as you go, we can only offer the 5% discount to those who pre-pay in full.




Our pre-pay special ends December 31, 2021.

We sincerely appreciate your business and your trust in us!

Safe Ways to Spread Holiday Cheer

The pandemic has not just disrupted everyday life. For so many of us, it has also thrown a monkey wrench into our traditional holiday festivities. But there are still plenty of ways to embrace the spirit of the season and spread some good cheer. Here are just a few ideas – and maybe the start of some new traditions.



-  **Doorbell Ditch** – Bake or buy your favorite holiday treats, and leave them at the doorstep of your friends and neighbors. A note expressing your love and appreciation makes it extra special.
-  **Snowflake Attack** – Decorate your friends' or neighbors' front doors with homemade snowflakes. Your young kids will enjoy helping make the paper snowflakes.
-  **Neighborhood Christmas Light Walk** – Coordinate with your neighbors to go big with the Christmas lights. Then plan a few nights to walk around and enjoy all the lights, while sipping hot cocoa or cider.
-  **Send Out Holiday Stockings** – Sending a stocking is a great way to connect with family for the holidays. Add a special touch by stuffing them with nice but inexpensive goodies like candles or a favorite candy. Grandparents will surely appreciate stockings that are hand-decorated by the grandkids.
-  **Host a Virtual Gingerbread House Contest** – Plan a virtual gingerbread house competition with your family and friends! Set a date and the rules (e.g., making it from scratch vs. decorating a premade one). Have everyone submit pictures of their gingerbread house, and then hold an anonymous vote for the best one!
-  **Elf Your Neighbor** – Elfing is a really fun pay-it-forward game. Create a holiday basket full of goodies, and drop it off at your neighbor's anonymously, along with instructions to elf it forward. You can find cute printable instruction cards by referring to the source listed below.

Source: <https://rachaelburgess.com/20-socially-distant-holiday-traditions-to-start-in-2020/>

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Keeping Trees Healthy: Green Thumb vs. Knowledge

If you don't have luck with gardens or house plants, you might chalk it up to not having a green thumb – that seemingly magical knack for growing healthy, beautiful plants. There's actually nothing magical about it. Keeping plants healthy takes knowledge and commitment.

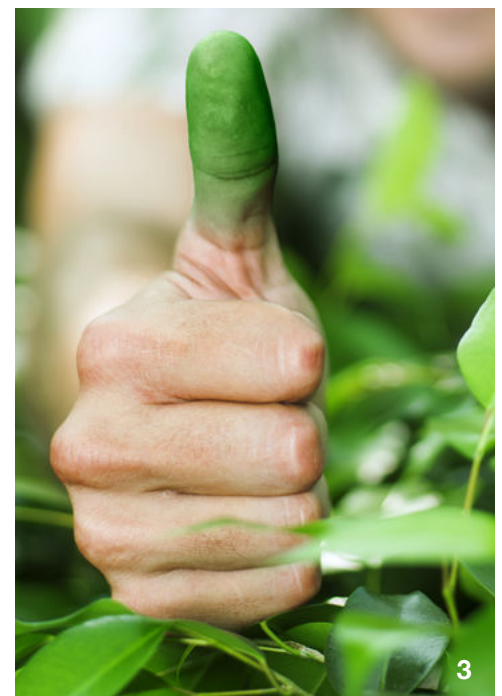
That's especially true of trees, where improper care and neglect can have especially serious consequences for trees, from fallen limbs to death.

The folks at Arbor-Nomics Tree are dedicated to staying in the know about tree health, specializing in the problems that affect the Atlanta area and the best ways to treat them. And if we're unsure about a diagnosis, you can trust us to dig deeper before recommending a treatment.

Our services include:

- Insect and disease management
- Nutrition programs
- Risk assessment
- Arboricultural prescriptions and implementation
- Mitigation of construction damage
- Consulting

If you're concerned about any of your trees, call Arbor-Nomics Tree at 770-368-0072 or email us at info@arbor-nomictree.com.



tend to have “excessively positive temperaments,” they’re also “more likely to experience rapid shifts in mood,” according to 2011 research published in the *Journal of Affective Disorders*.

Thundersnow is a rare, but real, weather phenomenon. It’s a rare weather phenomenon that refers to a snowstorm complete with both thunder and lightning. For thundersnow to occur, “the air layer closer to the ground has to be warmer than the layers above, but still cold enough to create snow,” according to CNN.

Snow can be yellow, orange, green, and purple. We may think of snow as being pristinely white, but technically, it’s completely colorless. Despite that fact, tiny particles of dust or algae can make snow appear to be a range of different rainbow-like colors, including yellow, orange, green, and even purple, according to *The Old Farmer’s Almanac*.

Snow rollers are self-forming snowballs. According to National Geographic, snow rollers are “the cold-weather equivalent of tumbleweeds.” Apparently, “wind pushes snow across the ground, gathering it into a hollow cylinder” and creating these self-forming snowballs.

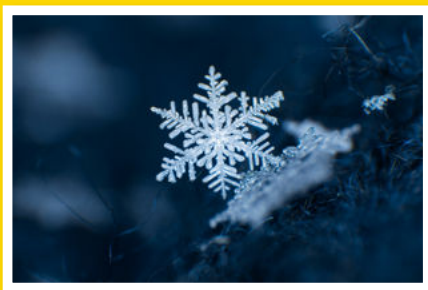
There are plenty of flowers that bloom in the winter. If you’re looking to dig into some dirt and don’t want to wait until spring, try growing winter pansies, lenten roses (which are also known as Christmas roses), winter aconite, and snowdrops.



Atlanta Winter Wonderland – 2017

Snow comes in five categories. There is dry snow (zero percent water), moist snow (less than 3 percent), wet snow (between 3 percent and 8 percent), very wet snow (between 8 percent and 15 percent), and, finally, slush, or snow that is 15 percent water.

At least a septillion snowflakes fall from the sky every year, according to the Library of Congress. To put it another way, that’s 1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 snowflakes or a trillion trillion.



Snowflakes almost always have six sides. The largest snowflake on record allegedly measured 15 inches wide and 8 inches thick. It was found in 1887 by a ranch owner in Fort Keogh, Montana, according to *The New York Times*.

The tallest snowperson on record stood over 122 feet. Residents living in Bethel, Maine, took the tradition to the extreme in Feb. 2008, when they spent a month building a Guinness World Record-setting snowperson—who was, in fact, a snowwoman named Olympia.

Winter increases your appetite. When it’s cold, your body needs to work harder to keep your temperature at a comfortable level, which requires more energy to burn. To supply that extra energy, your body needs more calories, and that means you might notice an increase in your appetite.

The first Winter Olympics were held in the French Alps in 1924. The first competition was held back in 1924 at the base of Mount Blanc in a spot called Chamonix, according to *History.com*. There were a total of 14 events across six different sports, including ski jumping and bobsledding.

The Earth is closest to the Sun during winter. Earth’s orbit is not a perfect circle. It is elliptical, or slightly oval-shaped. This means that the distance between the Earth and the Sun is not always the same. In the Northern Hemisphere, the closest point occurs in early January, and the far point happens in early July.

People once believed that birds flew to the moon for the winter. Until the 19th century, some people — including Aristotle — believed that birds spent the cold season in hibernation at the bottom of the sea. Others believed that they took a much longer trip and flew to the moon for the winter, according to *Atlas Obscura*.



Sabrina (7) and Levi (4) Enjoying the Snow – 2017

Source:
<https://bestlifeonline.com/winter-facts/>

If you have comments or questions about this article, I can be reached at 678.313.4568 or Josh@Arbor-Nomics.com.