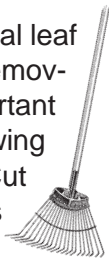


Garden Clean-up

Take time this fall for gardening tasks that will help prevent disease problems next spring and summer.

Clean Up Plant Debris. Most fungal leaf pathogens overwinter in leaf litter, so removing dead leaves can eliminate an important source of fungal spores during the following growing season. Rake tree leaves. Cut back and remove diseased herbaceous plant debris after the top has been killed by frost. Recycle the organic waste at municipal sites or by home composting.



Pruning. Proper pruning of trees and shrubs allows for better air flow through the plant, which can be important in preventing foliar diseases. Fall and winter are good times to do this, as pathogens are less active during colder weather.

Watering. Regularly water trees and shrubs, especially evergreens, to prevent winter drying and browning.

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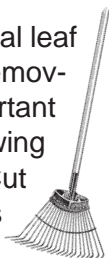
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Additional Resources

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- Article on the MG website at <http://wimastergardener.org/article/thinking-ahead-how-to-optimize-next-seasons-plant-health-this-fall-and-winter/>

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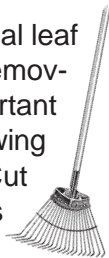
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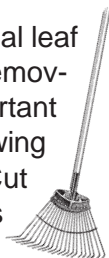
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