



# Butterfield Gardens

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## Winterizing Your Yard

"You are living in USDA Hardiness Zone 5. The average minimum temperature is minus 20 degrees Fahrenheit."

Yes, I know it is only August. However, many of you have asked us, "What happened this year. We had good snow cover last winter and that was supposed to have protected our plants (trees, shrubs, and perennials), but we lost some." Answering that question... and helping you avoid similar losses next year is the reason for this article.

You are living in USDA Hardiness Zone 5. The average minimum temperature is minus 20 degrees Fahrenheit. We tend to have some miserable winds out of the north and west during the winter creating wind chills as low as minus 80 degrees. This is very stressful on people and plants alike. Winterizing issues include hydration, feeding, pruning, and disease control.

**Hydration.** We had a good spring for moisture. The summer has been extremely dry, as was last summer and fall. Lack of moisture was probably the largest single contributor to winter losses this past year. Two seasons of drought will be deadly for your plants; trees, shrubs, lawns and perennials.

### Special points of interest:

- Winterizing includes good hydration, feeding, pruning, and disease control.
- Perennials, trees, and shrubs on sale.
- Taking care of birds.

## Perennials, Trees, & Shrubs

Fall is an excellent time to plant. The hot weather has been replaced by cool and the plants no longer feel the urge to grow leaves. They can concentrate on roots and build a firm base for next year's growth spurt. Cool weather also means that we do not need to be quite as careful with the watering schedule.

The perennials go on sale September 1.

The trees and shrubs go on sale October 1. Take advantage of this opportunity to add to the value of your property.

