



# Kiefer

**Landscaping  
Garden Center  
& Nursery**

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NC Certified Nursery—Member NC Assoc. of Nurserymen  
NC Registered Landscape Contractors #841  
Interlocking Concrete Paver Institute Certified Installers  
Rainbird Irrigation Certified Installers

## Winterizing your Garden

### August-October

- Fertilizer your fescue lawn with a high nitrogen slow release fertilizer in September.
- Apply post-emergent herbicides in lawn and garden to reduce weed population for next spring
- Lightly prune fall flowering shrubs after they have finished blooming. Some seed heads can be left for winter interest. (Crepe Myrtle, Abelia, and Hydrangea)
- Plant trees, shrubs, and spring/summer flowering bulbs.
- Replace summer annuals with winter annuals in early October.
- Place and begin stocking bird feeders.

### November

- Cut back perennials when they die back from freezes.
- Fertilize fescue turf with winterizer formula (medium N, low P, high K)
- Leave evergreen perennials and ornamental grasses for winter interest.
- Cut back Roses (except shrub type), Spirea, Caryopteris and Butterfly bush.
- Reduce fertilizer on houseplants.
- Clean, oil, sharpen and store garden tools. Spray any blades with oil to increase the life. Rub wood handles with linseed oil to avoid cracking.
- Clean garden equipment. Sharpen lawn mower blades and oil, clean any debris, and either run out all the gas or add a gas conditioner.
- Drain garden hoses and irrigation systems (remove Backflow device) to avoid leaks from freezing.
- Empty and turn upside down birdbaths and other freestanding fountains that hold water to avoid freezing.
- Empty clay and ceramic planters or bring inside to avoid damage from freezing.
- Dig and store or add a 3-4 inch layer of mulch over any tender perennials. Hardy Ginger, Purple Heart, Lantana and others.
- Clean debris from gutters/catch basins/drains, and anywhere else debris may have collected to reduce over wintering insect pest.
- Spray plants (Especially fruit trees) with dormant oil to control insects.

### December-February

- Prune winter blooming shrubs after they finish blooming.
- Perform any heavy pruning 25% or more on trees or shrubs.
- Evergreens that show leaf burn (brown or black leaf margins) can be protected from further leaf burn by watering on a warm day and wrapping the plant in burlap.
- In late February, trim back ornamental grasses to prepare for spring growth.
- Fertilize trees and shrubs in February with a slow release mixture containing micronutrients
- Lime beds and turf. Apply pre-emergent herbicides to reduce weed seed germination in spring.