



Bloomers

HOME AND GARDEN



Fruit Tree Care Program



Having a fruit tree care program is crucial for ensuring your trees to reach their healthiest and highest potential. Consistent care, including proper watering, fertilizing, and pruning, promotes healthy growth, which leads to better fruit production and quality. Our comprehensive approach for caring for your fruit trees will ensure they remain healthy, productive, and a joy to have in your garden.

Late Winter Transition Into Spring



Don't Fear The Shears! Early March is the ideal time Prune!

Winter pruning is a must-do and essential for fruit trees to maintain shape, encourage fruit production, manage disease and pests, and stimulate growth.

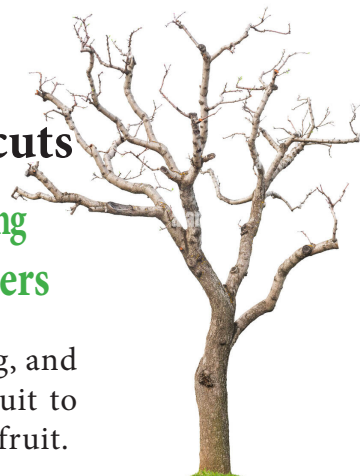
Follow the 3 DDDs: If it looks **DISEASED**, **DEAD**, or **DISORIENTED** remove it!

- Prune on a dry day with no rain in forecast
- Cut at 45 degree angle so water doesn't sit on the fresh cuts
- Cut out water sprouts and root suckers



Scan the QR Code for info on identifying
Water Sprouts and Root Suckers

It's best to open light and air flow with thinning cuts to prevent overcrowding, crossing, and rubbing branches. Save your big cuts for the summer after the tree has produced fruit to reduce overall height. Cutting too early can cause vigorous growth which means less fruit.



Make Sure To Kill All Bugs, Diseases, and Fertilize

Use All-Seasons

Horticultural & Dormant Spray Oil

This emulsifying oil smothers the eggs of overwintering bugs and helps to prevent re-infestations and common fungal diseases.

is above 40°. Using this spray will help setup a clean slate for spring time!

Scan the QR Code for detailed directions of use.



Fertilize w/

Espoma Tree-tone or Berry-Tone

Feed in early spring before growth starts (BEST IN APRIL). For small trees sprinkle on the ground and work into the soil at the feeder roots. For bigger trees dig 2-3 inch, 2-3' apart holes and dump fertilizer in. Do evenly around diameter of trunk. Scan the QR Code for more information from Espoma.



Early Spring Through Growing Seasons



Use Bonide Fruit Tree and Plant Guard

Protect your fruit trees from a wide variety of insects and diseases like aphids, Japanese beetles, leafhoppers, ants, crickets, cockroaches, powdery mildew, apple scab, flyspeck, black mold and many more. Contains insecticide, fungicide, miticide, aphicide, and scabicide. Spray on cool, calm period early morning or evening by applying to leaves, trunk, and base. DO NOT EXCEED THE RECOMMENDED 4-5 APPLICATIONS OF THIS PRODUCT!



Apply Bonide Fruit Tree and Plant in 4 phases

- 1st Application: **Green Tip stage** (Pre Bloom/pink bud stage)
- 2nd Application: **Blooming stage**
- 3rd Application: **Petal Fall Stage** (when the bees have left!)
- 4th Application: **Fruit set stage**

DO NOT SPRAY WITHIN

21 DAYS OF HARVEST

Apply to leaves, trunk, and base until runoff on a cool, calm period early morning or evening. Scan the qr code for details instructions.



Mulch Your Fruit Trees in Early Spring | May is the Best Time

DON'T SKIP MULCHING YOUR FRUIT TREES

Mulch prevents weeds from sprouting up in the bare soil and helps retain moisture, insulate tree roots, adds organic matter, and repel pests that might damage your fruit trees adding to its overall good health longevity.

Mulching of fruit trees is best done in May using 6-10 in of straw or hay.

Reapply periodically and pull away from trees at the end of August/September.

This allows trees to harden off and reduces mouse pressure around tree come winter.

Make Sure You Thin Your Fruit | Everything Besides Berries & Nut Trees

So, What is Fruit Thinning You Ask?

Fruit thinning is the act of lessening the amount of fruit on your plants to ensure healthier, bigger fruits. Leaving too much fruit on a tree can cause a burden on the tree as there isn't enough leaf surface to take in nutrients to properly ripen the fruit. An overbearing fruit tree may produce no fruit the next year. Commercial orchards use growth regulators and hormones to induce chemical fruit thinning.



Space fruits evenly along a branch or leaving only one fruit per spur is a good practice, but leaving the largest fruit is more important. The Spur is the short woody structure which flowers arise

Best Practices for Thinning of Your Fruit Trees

Thinning Apples & Pears

One fruit for every 6 inches of branch is key. Thin as early as possible, before each apple reaches the size of a dime in diameter (20 days after petal fall)

Thinning Peaches, Plums, & Nectarines:

Leave 6-8 inches of space between young fruit and thin within 30 days of the end of the bloom

**Have More Questions About
Caring For Your Fruit Trees?
Call The Bloomers in the Garden
Radio Show & Podcast Hotline
609-685-1880**



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"You've Got To See This Place!"