

"I like trees because they seem more resigned to the way they have to live than other things do."
~ Willa Cather

Campbell's

Notes from the Garden

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GROUNDHOG DAY February 2

Yea! Punxsutawney Phil didn't see his shadow! What does that mean for us? Spring is just around the corner!



VALENTINES DAY February 14

Every February, candy, flowers, and gifts are exchanged between loved ones, all in the name of St. Valentine. But who is this mysterious saint and why do we celebrate this holiday?

The history of Valentine's Day — and its patron saint — is shrouded in mystery.

One legend contends that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death. While in prison, Valentine actually sent the first 'valentine' greeting himself. It is believed that Valentine fell in love with a young girl. Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter, which he signed 'From your Valentine,' an expression that is still in use today.

from history.com



February Garden & Yard Care Reminders

TREAT YOUR VALENTINE TO A GIFT THAT RE-BLOOMS!

Valentine's Day is February 14th and the pressure is on! Campbell's can make Valentine's Day easy with gorgeous blooming plants that keep reminding your sweetheart how much you care every time it blooms! Think of Exotic Orchids or Cyclamen, Begonia, Tulips, Daffodils, Hyacinth, Mums all in several shades and so many more! Our knowledgeable staff would love to pot up a custom arrangement for you, just stop in or call! Plus, purchase your gift on or before Valentines Day and we will delivery it FREE!

WINTER HOUSEPLANT CARE

Winter is a difficult time for houseplants. The shorter days with less light, low humidity and cooler temperatures slows plant growth. Many plants enter a resting or dormant period during winter. With proper care, houseplants can be maintained in winter. You must be alert to needs and potential problems.

Inactive growth phase: Because of less active growth, fertilizer should not be applied. If you think your plants need feeding, use a weak dilution of fertilizer once or twice during the winter.

Less Water: In most cases, you can cut back on the watering. Be sure to check the soil when you water plants. If the soil feels moist, wait a few more days before watering.

Dormancy: Certain houseplants enter a dormant period during cold weather months. These plants lose their leaves

during the dormancy period and should not be watered at all or very infrequently. Be sure to read about individual plant care, especially if you have a new plant in your collection.

Temperature: Winter brings a lot of temperature extremes in your home. Some plants may be sensitive to cold drafts or cold from windows. Also, the warm, dry heat from your home heating system may cause plants to dry out faster than usual.

Humidity: Home heating also reduces humidity levels. Plants may show signs of humidity stress, such as brown leaf tips. Below are some suggestions for raising the humidity levels around your houseplants:

- Add a humidifier to the room.
- Group plants together. Plants release water from their leaf stomatas during transpiration and create a layer of moist air around a plant, which can benefit surrounding plants.
- Use a pebble tray. To make a pebble tray, place plants on top of a tray filled with pebbles or marbles. Then fill the tray with water, making sure that the plant rests atop the pebbles and is not sitting in the water. As the water in the pebble tray evaporates, it will raise the humidity level around the plant.

Pests: Insects may continue to be a serious problem during the winter. Be sure to check plants for signs of infestation. Scale, mealy bugs, spider mites, white flies and aphids are common household pests.

Campbell's Nurseries and Garden Center, Inc.

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Campbell's Nurseries and Garden Centers does not sell or ship plant material outside of Lincoln, Omaha or the surrounding communities via our website. Advice on lawns, plants and their care applies only to Zones 4 and 5, which is roughly from South Dakota to Kansas and Wyoming to Illinois

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MELT ICE FAST



ICE is one of the most troublesome aspects of winter. De-icer used before a storm prevents ice from forming on driveways and sidewalks. Also, they can be used afterward to soften ice for easier removal with a shovel. There are several products on the market. However, ice-melting solutions can contain irritants that can hurt

lawns, landscape plants and pets, as well as the concrete. Don't be tempted to use rock salt as a de-icer! Although it is inexpensive, salt is toxic to plants and highly corrosive to metals.

Campbell's Garden Center locations feature **ICE NO MOR ICE MELT**, a granular de-icer that is one of the fastest acting de-icers on the market. **ICE NO MOR** eliminates the worst ice and snow quickly to temperatures as low as -5°F. It's 4-ingredient blend is safe to concrete and gentle to surrounding vegetation and pets. Better yet, it leaves no chalky or oily residue that could be tracked indoors.

ICE NO MOR is a blue granular compound that lets you see where you've spread it. This helps reduce waste and insures complete coverage of your sidewalks and drives. It is safe for you to handle since the ingredients do not cause skin irritation or harmful side effects.

Stop by either of our Garden Center locations to pick up your bag of **ICE NO MOR**. Keep your walks and drives slip-free all winter.



WINTER IS FOR THE BIRDS



If you enjoy having birds in your yard during the winter months, do what you can to keep them happy. If you've been feeding the birds through winter, don't stop now! They are counting on you! Bird watching in the winter can be a fun diversion for gardeners who are trapped inside by cold weather. There are many types of bird feeders including hopper, tube and platform feeders. However, if you want to keep it simple, a small dish, even a flower-pot saucer, will do the job. Just remember... open containers

will attract squirrels, too.

You can purchase a variety of seed mixes that work with your specific feeder. You can make bird-feeding items with peanut butter and sunflower seeds or other birdseed. The more different types of feed you use, the greater the varieties of birds that may visit your yard.

Fresh ice free water is important too. If you don't like refilling frozen containers, get a bird bath heater or a heated bird bath to keep open water available.

Spring is just around the corner!

Call the Landscape Office now to schedule a crew to help with your spring maintenance! Our crews make your spring a breeze with trimming, weeding, raking, mulching and more!
(402) 423-4556



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

Campbell's Nurseries is now on Facebook! Follow us as we discuss timely tips, favorite flowers, photographs, and advice from professionals and homeowners alike! In addition, enjoy coupons, specials and fan only promotions!

Follow us at <http://facebook.com/CampbellsNursery>

HOME & GARDEN SHOW

Lincoln's Home and Garden Show in mid-February is an excellent opportunity to get new ideas for home and landscapes. Better yet, February is the perfect time to start thinking about ways to improve your existing yard and landscape areas.

Campbell's Nurseries Landscape Department will have a booth at this year's Home and Garden Show. Our display area will be staffed with some of our landscape experts who can help you get started on landscaping updates. The Home and Garden Show runs February 10th through February 13th at the Lancaster County Event Center.

DREAMING FOR SPRING

Garden seed catalogs begin arriving in February to tempt us all. Rather than shop from a catalog visit either of Campbell's Garden Center locations to pick out seeds for your spring gardens. Starting some of your



garden plants from seed is a fun project for late winter. A wide variety of vegetables, herbs, grasses or flowers are available.

Do you remember what was in your garden last summer? The plants were probably your favorites that you have planted for successive years.

Think about new combinations for your vegetable garden or flowerbeds. Instead of the plain, old green peppers, try sweet banana peppers or yellow, orange or lilac sweet peppers. Heirloom tomatoes, as well as different varieties of hybrid tomatoes, are fun to grow. Try new shade-tolerant flowers along with varieties that you've enjoyed in the past. There are many sun-loving flowers that you've probably never thought about. Try a few new plants and start them from seed. This February-March project reminds you that spring is only a few weeks away.

Not a real "do it yourselfer"? Come visit with our nursery professionals or call for an appointment with a landscape designer to help you dream, design and install your ultimate garden escape.

Whether you start seeds or not, don't forget to stop by in March for spring pansies and in April for the start of our selection of annual bedding plants & roses.

Campbell's Nurseries

Winter Hours:

Monday—Saturday

9am— 5:30pm, Closed Sunday