



December 2020

garden time

A Digital Monthly Magazine for Your Garden & Home

Drive-Through Decorations

Zoolights at
The Oregon Zoo
Takes to the Streets

Plants from Garden Time Tours
Easy Holiday Appetizers
Christmas Tree Growers



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Traditions

If there is one part of the year that you could equate with traditions it is the holidays of December. Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, New Year's Eve and Christmas all are saturated with traditions. From hanging decorations to gift giving, huge meals and family get-togethers, there is a virtual checklist of things to do for every family. This year, however, is quite different. Here we are nine months into the pandemic and most people are adjusting their annual traditions for the upcoming season. There are concerns about large groups getting together and shopping has changed quite a bit, but there are things that haven't changed, and that is family and gardening. Some people have wonderful traditions on gifting poinsettias, hunting for Christmas trees and growing amaryllis or paperwhites for the holidays. In the spring, travels to plant shows and nurseries, planting spring gardens and buying cut flowers like tulips and daffodils, are all traditions that we share. The one tradition that we have here at Garden Time is the annual wrap up to the broadcasting season. As you read this we will have just finished our 15th season and will be heading into our annual winter break. As many of you know, this break is due to the lack of funding from advertisers. There is not much going on for garden centers and nurseries, so they don't have the funds to advertise. They do as we do, take a break and prepare for the upcoming gardening season, though there is still time to do some Christmas and other holiday shopping. As we wrap up this season follow us on Facebook or our website for occasional updates on what is happening in the garden and with the Garden Time crew. Not to worry, we will return in March of 2021.

This month in the Garden Time magazine we talk about another tradition we have here on the show, the Garden Time tours! We have roughly done a tour every year for the last six years. This year we didn't get a chance to head to Portugal and Spain, but we will be headed that direction next October. If you would like to join us, we are down to less than eight slots still open! Check out the Garden Time website to get more information. To help you get excited for the next tour, Judy shares some of the coolest plants that we've seen on our past travels. To help get you in the holiday spirit we have a few other stories to share. Ryan fills us in on the Christmas tree growers in our state and some cool information on where all those trees go! It is amazing how many trees we grow locally and share with other states and countries! Therese takes a trip up to the Oregon Zoo to get the details on changes to their annual ZooLights event. Some things have changed but you can still 'safely' see all those wonderful lights and Chef David shares some delicious and easy holiday appetizers. What is a holiday without food!?!

There is still happiness to be had this season, even if some of our traditions have changed. We are happy that a lot of you have made Garden Time your 'weekly' tradition, and for your loyalty over the past 15 years.

Happy Holidays and Happy Gardening!

Jeff Gustin, Publisher

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Garden Time's Iconic Spokesflower Answers Your Questions!



Ask Mortimer

Dear Mortimer,

I've heard that you shouldn't mow or fertilize your lawn in the late fall and winter. The lawn is going dormant and it is just a waste of time. Is that true?

Signed,
Dealing with Turf in Toledo

Dear Dealing,

Yes, you can work on your lawn in the fall and winter. There are a few tips you can follow. You can mow your lawn, but don't cut it too short. The blades can help protect the crown of the grass from freezing, killing the grass plant. Also, don't leave it too long, about 2 inches in height is good. If the grass gets too long it can fall over and mat over the crown and rot, also not good for the plant. If you do mow, don't use the mulching feature on your mower, bag it and compost it. The grass and soil are too cold during the winter for the grass to break down and feed the nutrients to your lawn if you leave it for a mulch. Speaking of nutrients, you can use a good fall and winter fertilizer on your lawn. That type of fertilizer is blended to promote root growth and is generally lower in nitrogen so it won't encourage foliar growth. Apply it during a warm stretch in the weather, not freezing. Rainy weather will help wash the fertilizer in and not leave it sitting on top of the ground.

A stronger lawn will come out of winter with less disease problems and if it is fuller and



Fertilizer Spreader

Mortimer answers selected questions and comments every month in Garden Time Magazine. To send him your question, email AskMortimer@GardenTime.tv



Lawn Mowing



Moss in Lawn

healthier it will help prevent moss growth as well.

Happy mowing!
Mortimer

• • • • •

Dear Mortimer,

I have heard that Root Crops (carrots, beets, radishes) are great for a winter garden. Can you plant them in the winter?

Your friend,
Itching for veggies

Dear Itching,

Yes, root crops are great for late fall and winter harvesting. In fact, some root crops can actually taste sweeter if they are exposed to a frost in the fall and still be harvested through the winter. However, planting root crops in the late fall or winter, especially from seed, will not be successful most of the time. The plants need to be established and small seedlings don't have the energy or reserves to endure a severe cold snap if started outside. If you have a cold frame (type of mini-greenhouse) or you want to try to start your seedlings indoors, you can give it a try. They will need some protection from the elements while they get established, and you still may not get a crop you can harvest. The best time to plant a root crop is in the late summer or early fall. During those times the soil temperature is still warm and the plants get well established and ready for winter. You will also have success if you plant in the spring, though they may still need some protection, like a frost cloth, until they get up and growing.

For now just enjoy them from your local farmers market or grocery store and mark your calendar for next August or September to get them in the ground for a winter bounty.

All the best,
Mortimer



Beets are a great root crop but need to be planted in the late summer.



Carrots are a crop that gets sweeter after a freeze.



PHOTO CREDIT: THE OREGON ZOO

Drive-Through Decorations

In response to COVID concerns, The Oregon Zoo's popular holiday lights show is taking it to the streets.

by Therese Gustin

One of our areas most beloved and anticipated holiday light show traditions will take place this month but like so many events this year, Zoolights will look a little different. Instead of the traditional walk-through experience where participants can immerse themselves in the beauty and brilliance of 1.5 million holiday lights, this year Zoolights will be offering a drive-through experience. Nikki Simmons, the Zoo events manager said, "We're trying new things to help make this holiday tradition safe, accessible and fun for everyone."

The protocols put in place for the safety of all visitors and staff this year are as follows:

Timed ticketing/limited attendance: All guests, including members, must reserve their ZooLights tickets in advance via the zoo website. Tickets are only available up to seven days in advance of the visit date.

Masks/face coverings: Drive-through guests do not need to wear masks while enjoying the lights from inside their vehicle. Masks are required, however, for drivers while interacting with the ZooLights staff during check-in. (Individuals who have a medical condition that makes it hard to breathe, or a disability that prevents them from wearing a mask, can request an accommodation.)

Reduced contact: All transactions are cashless.

Treats and drinks: Pre-order snacks or souvenirs when you purchase timed-tickets and they will be ready for you to pick up at check-in. Elephant ears, cotton candy, hot chocolate and kettle corn can be pre-purchased as well as LED Holiday necklaces and Flashing Snowflake wands. Details can be found on the ticketing page.

So how does the new drive-through experience differ from the traditional walk-through experience? First you will purchase one ticket per vehicle online. Each vehicle will have a timed entry. When you arrive at the zoo, you will enter a line to check-in curbside. If you pre-purchased snacks and souvenirs, you will pick them up here. Afterwards you

Where Will a Capitol Subaru Take You?



Local Events December 2020

Oregon ZooLights

November 22, 2020 thru January 10, 2021

The Oregon Zoo, Portland, OR

This year, instead of the walk-through, Zoolights will be offering a drive-through experience. (Event closed December 25th.)

• www.oregonzoo.org

Winter Wonderland

November 27, 2020-January 2, 2021

Portland International Raceway, Portland, OR

The 28th annual Safeway Winter Wonderland powered by Advantis Credit Union, will grab your attention with glimmers and glows around every corner. Cashless entry to the racetrack with online-only tickets available for purchase.

• www.portlandraceway.com

Lights at the Oregon Garden Resort

Tuesday, December 1, 2020-January 2, 2020

Oregon Garden Resort, Silverton, OR

The lights will surround the Resort's main lodge and will be available only for guests staying at the Resort. (Event closed December 24th & 25th.)

• <https://christmasinthegarden.com>





PHOTO CREDIT: THE OREGON ZOO

will move on to the drive-through entrance. The drive-through experience will take approximately 25-35 minutes and take you on a route through the widest paths of the zoo. You will see the brilliant, colorful light displays similar to the walk-through experience but the path will also take you through behind-the-scene areas around the outside of Elephant Lands as well as through tunnels of lights.

For everyone's safety (including the animals) the Oregon Zoo has implemented the following protocols:

For guest safety, all tailgates, van/car doors and hatchbacks must remain closed at all

times. Riding in the back of a pickup truck is not permitted

Remain in your vehicle during the entire tour

No restrooms are available inside the zoo

Please turn your headlights off if possible, and turn on your parking lights

Follow the guided route at an even pace of 3-4 miles per hour and keep a minimum distance of 6' from the vehicle in front of you

Do not shine bright lights into animal habitats. Items such as laser pointers and flashlights are prohibited



Loud noises are not permitted, including honking, music and yelling

The following are prohibited during Zoolights, including in your vehicle:

- Smoking and vaping
- Alcohol
- Pets (except ADA-compliant service animals)

No pedestrian traffic, bicycles, or motorcycles.

While times may vary, the estimated time to drive through the ZooLights experience is 25-35 minutes.

Face coverings are mandatory for anyone in the vehicle who may interact with zoo staff,

such as during check-in

The Oregon Zoo is not responsible for any collisions or damage to your vehicle during the event

Vehicle size must be no larger than a full-size long bed truck. Maximum vehicle sizes are: 12' high, 8.5' wide, 20' long. Vehicles with loud exhaust or engine modifications will not be permitted entry, for the sake of animal welfare. No chains or studded tires are permitted within zoo grounds.

Zoolights

November 22, 2020 to January 10, 2021
with the exception of Dec. 25

Pricing varies depending on the date
(\$50 - 65 per car)

www.oregonzoo.org





PHOTO CREDIT: THE OREGON ZOO

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS ONLY:

Members get a 25% discount on ZooLights tickets.

You must be logged in as a member to see ZooLights member pricing.

Your entire party must enter in one vehicle and at least one named cardholder on the membership must be present for entry. Photo IDs are required.

Memberships are non-refundable.

At the time I wrote this article, these were the protocols put in place in response to the COVID-19 crisis. Please check the Oregon Zoo website (oregonzoo.org/zoolights) for the most up to date information on this beloved holiday tradition.

As with many organizations dealing with reduced attendance at this time, the Oregon Zoo would benefit from contributions to help support the critical needs of Zoo animals and their important conservation work. If you would like to contribute, go to www.oregonzoo.org/donate.

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Tour Allure

Over the years, our Garden Time Tours have given us a lot of wonderful memories, especially of the amazing plants we saw. Here are some of my favorites.

by Judy Alleruzzo

Teeny Tiny Orchid, Costa Rica, 2015



**Quercus garryana a.k.a. Oregon White Oak
a.k.a. Garry Oak, British Columbia, 2014**

The title of this article is the Plants of the Garden Time tours and it seemed like a huge task when I signed up to write the article. There is not enough space to download all the photos I took on the several tours we have had since 2014. It was a little mind numbing to highlight just one or two from each tour. It is like naming a favorite child so please forgive me for not going on and on about a specific plant. When Garden Time began planning and taking tours with viewers, we knew we would see incredible gardens and plants, scenery and meet fantastic people, but those expectations have been surpassed!

We were amazed that we saw many plants we knew and then there were the myriad collections of plants that we couldn't ID or our guide told us about them and we didn't write down the name. There were just too many to write down. Many days, I just gave up taking notes and enjoyed the moment and the scenery.

**Victoria, British Columbia,
Canada
June 2014**

Garden Time's first tour out of

the U.S. was five days in Victoria BC, seeing views of the city and visiting many gardens.

Oregonians are inherently proud of their state and plants. We think we own a specific plant and no one else can grow it, even a native genus. We were all stymied when our tour guide kept talking

about the majestic Garry Oaks we saw from the window of the bus and also on a walking tour of a city park. Up close we finally figured out she was talking about, Oregon White Oaks, *Quercus garryana*, which we all know and love. BUT, being in British Columbia, Victoria, Canada, the Oregon White Oaks are Garry Oaks. We were a bit embarrassed we didn't make the very obvious connection, but we all love this story and re-tell it as a favorite memory of that trip.

**Costa Rica
January 2015**

Our trip to Costa Rica was like living in a botanical garden, aviary and zoo for 12 days. Our guide was Christian Mata Bonilla, a native Costa Rican with extraordinary knowledge of plants, animals, birds, Costa Rican and Central American history, culture, politics, local food and whatever else we had a question about during the tour. I tried to keep a journal of the plants and animals we saw during that trip and logged over 49 animals and



**Arundina graminifolia Orchid
Bamboo Orchid, Costa Rica, 2015**



**Buddleia growing out of a chimney,
Glasnevin, Dublin Ireland, 2016**

birds and scores of plants. I had to spell phonetically as Christian would rattle off botanical names just too fast. I love orchids and am sharing two in the photos. I knew the correct name of the Bamboo Orchid *Arundinaria graminifolia*, as I took a photo of the name plate at the botanic garden we visited. The teeny tiny orchid is just that, as we saw it while walking through a lush rain forest on a rainy day. Any kind of notes I would have taken would have been pulp by the end of the day. It was ultra-wet but being in a rain forest was magical!

Ireland June 2016

The Irish landscape felt familiarly like Oregon, but so different with ancient ruins of castles, thatched roof cottages, stone walls and hedgerows lining the narrow lanes we drove down to get to the many private gardens we visited. It was a bit greener and lush with plants we knew and new ones to ooh and ahh about at each garden. It rained pretty heavy at the end of our third day, but we didn't care, as we are gardeners from Oregon. What's a little rain?!

In Dublin, on our first day, we saw Buddleia shrubs growing out of chimneys and building

facades all around the city. We were astounded and thought the Agriculture Department didn't put that plant on the noxious weed list soon enough! Funny, how on the other side of the world, we have the same problem. We felt like kindred gardening spirits of the Irish.

Another great story from this trip was the pride the Irish gardeners had for their favorite rose 'Rhapsody in Blue'. It is a fragrant

rose in a pretty shade of purple-magenta and one of the closest to a blue rose in the rose industry today.

We toured nine private gardens and almost every one included this rose and it had to be pointed out! We even saw it in the public garden in Dublin. We should have asked if it was a new introduction that year or the rose was recommended as the best blue rose or what was the story behind its popularity? It got to be kind of funny after the second time we saw it in a garden and the garden owner would say, "please follow me to see my 'Rhapsody in Blue' rose." We knew it would be none other than that rose.

Hawaii February 2017

This tour was by cruise ship and we visited four Islands. We had an amazing trip, even seeing the lava from the Kilauea volcano spilling into the ocean at night! So many favorite plants on that tour but my ultimate favorites were the Lobster Claws, Heliconias that seemed to be in every



Rosa 'Rhapsody in Blue'

PHOTO CREDIT: DAVID AUSTIN ROSES



Heliconia vellerigera- 'She-Kong'

garden and landscape. We also had a behind the scenes tour at a Heliconia grower and saw a fuzzy red flowered variety. The assortment of varieties in that one place was amazing.

We also saw the massive *Ficus macrophylla*, Moreton Bay Fig Trees at The Allerton Garden, on the Big Island of Hawaii, one of the National Tropical Botanic Gardens in all of Hawaii. Standing in the buttresses of the trunks, you feel so small and can imagine the ancient Hawaiian people standing in the same spot. These trees can live for over a hundred years. This garden and these trees were a backdrop to one of the Jurassic Park movies.

England August 2018

A gardener's dream come true, touring gar-

dens in London!! It was a strange time to be in London that summer as they had a record number of days with NO Rain!! The wide lawns at Kew Botanical Garden were brown like our valley's summer lawns in Oregon. There were Rainbird type sprinklers set up to try to keep up with irrigating this massive garden. We still enjoyed all the gardens we toured. One of my favorite gardens was Hampton Court Palace Gardens. I talked with a young woman hand trimming a Boxwood topiary. The shrubs were perfect and almost looked artificial. She said that there were over 140 topiaries with four gardeners to trim them plus take care of the other plants in the garden. She said that it seems like once they finish trimming them, it's time to go back around for a follow up pruning.



Ficus trees at The Allerton Garden, Hawaii, 2017



Topiaries, Hampton Court Palace, England, 2018

I did take a photo of her but it's somewhere in the Cloud. One of those scenes that are only a memory.

Belgium August 2018

On that same trip, the Garden Time tour took the Chunnel under the English Channel and arrived in France. Our tour continued through the French countryside and finally arrived in Brussels, Belgium for the Flower Carpet extravaganza! This amazing floral display only happens every two

years. Local Begonia and Mum growers bring in flowers to be placed in a design that is on display for five days. The design in 2018 was an Aztec motif highlighting the cultural richness of Guanajuato, an area in Central Mexico.

My photos are somewhere in the cloud but not as beautiful as the one accompanying this article, plus I didn't have a drone!

Monaco September 2019

This whole tour had an amazing itinerary, Lake Como, Italy to the French Riviera and Monaco in between!

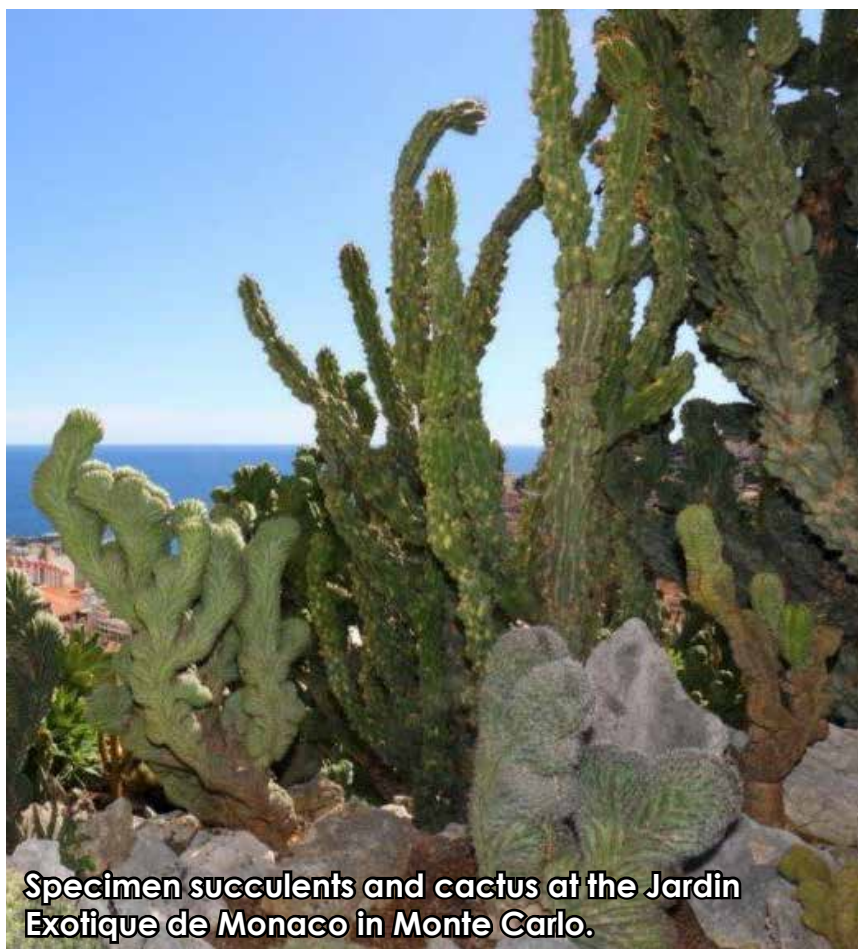
We stopped in Monte Carlo and of course didn't go to the famous casino but went to the equally famous Jardin Exotique de Monaco. This garden was planted on the side of a cliff in the 1930s. We all went totally gaga over the specimen succulents and cactus around every bend of the downward spiraling pathway. I will name one specific cactus at this garden as it's so unusual, *Myrtillocactus geometrizans forma cristata*, Crested Blue Candle. The texture and ice blue color of this cactus is eye catching. We all wanted to take a cutting as a souvenir.

I hope you enjoyed my memories and favorite plants from our Garden Time tours. All the trips were a blast with so many plants and experiences and new friends to experience it all. Plans are for a trip to Portugal and Spain in October of 2021. Check out the Garden Time website, www.gardentime.tv and click on Garden Time Tours for more information.



Flower carpet, Brussels, Belgium, 2018

PHOTO CREDIT: GASTON BATISTINI



Specimen succulents and cactus at the Jardin Exotique de Monaco in Monte Carlo.

More information

Garden Time

www.gardentime.tv

Victoria, BC, Canada

Beacon Hill Park

<https://www.victoria.ca/EN/main/residents/parks/beacon-hill.html>

FaceBook

Christian Mata Bonilla

The Allerton Garden

<https://ntbg.org/gardens/allerton/>

Jardin Exotique de Monaco

<https://www.jardin-exotique.mc/en/>

Hampton Court Palace Gardens

<https://www.hrp.org.uk/hampton-court-palace/whats-on/hampton-court-gardens/#gs.lgtkkp>

Brussels Flower Carpet

<http://www.flowercarpet.brussels/en/carpet/flower-carpet-2018>

Jardin Exotique De Monaco

<https://www.jardin-exotique.mc/en/>



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Shroom for Growth

If you're looking for an interesting and delicious project to tackle over the winter, grow some mushrooms!

by Ron Dunevant

Oyster mushrooms growing on a log.

PHOTO CREDIT: JEANETTE S VIA FLICKR CREATIVE COMMONS

Mushrooms have an exotic reputation. Go to any fancy restaurant and you will see them featured on the menu with everything from steak to shallots. But you don't have to be a connoisseur to love them. Mushrooms – in any variety – can add a delightful flair to even pedestrian fare like a green salad or a pizza.

Besides being delicious, mushrooms are filled with antioxidants, vitamins, and other nutrients, plus they're low in calories and fat-free.

Here at Garden Time, we like to introduce you to foods that you can grow from your own garden, and mushrooms are one of those foods. In fact, the mild conditions that the Pacific Northwest is famous for make it an optimal spot for mushrooms to thrive.

Now, one question that seems to be a point of discussion is, "are mushrooms plants?" The answer is "no" because mushrooms don't make their own food through photosynthesis as genuine plants do. They are a type of fungi, but one that has a plant-like form, with a stem, a cap and cell walls. They often grow in association with plants, attaching to the side of a tree or growing out of the decay from a dead log. They recycle nutrients and break down

dead plant materials. Therefore, while not technically plants, they have many similarities.

Another way that mushrooms differ from plants is that they do not grow from seeds. Rather, mushrooms come from spores, "a one-celled, reproductive unit capable of giving rise to a new individual without sexual fusion, characteristic of lower plants, fungi and protozoans," according to the dictionary. The spores are so small, in fact, that they can't be seen individually by the naked eye. That's even smaller than orchid seeds, which are smaller than a grain of salt.

These spores, rather than using soil for nutrients, rely on substances like wood chips, grain, straw or sawdust for nourishment. When you blend these spores and a nutrient source, you get something called "spawn," essentially a starter kit for mushrooms. Some have likened this process to sourdough bread starter. The spawn is then applied to a growing medium such as logs, cardboard, wood chips or certain types of compost.

From there, it's all location, location, location! Mushrooms like it dark, cool and humid. A basement is a good spot. Or a window with indirect light. The

temperature should be between 55 and 60 degrees Fahrenheit, away from drafts and direct heat. Because of this need for cool temperatures, winter is an ideal time to grow mushrooms, as it may get too warm and dry in the summer.

A couple types of mushrooms you can grow in the Pacific Northwest:

Oyster Mushrooms (*Pleurotus ostreatus*) • Also known as pearl oyster mushrooms or tree oyster mushrooms, this variety is one of the most common types of cultivated mushrooms. They grow naturally on trees in temperate and sub-tropic forests and are grown commercially. Grey, white or tan in color, with broad oyster-shaped caps, their delicate texture and savory flavor makes them one of the most popular varieties in the world. They are used frequently in Japanese, Chinese and Korean cooking.

Shiitake Mushrooms (*Lentinula edodes*) • Translated from Japanese, the name refers to the shii tree on which these mushrooms originally grew. They have a wide cap with a coloration from light to dark brown. Their cream-colored flesh is firm and a bit chewy with a rich, earthy flavor and meaty texture. In stores and restaurants, the shiitake mushroom is more expen-

sive than white button mushrooms and often used in risotto, soups, stuffing and stir-fries.

Growing mushrooms outdoors can be an involved process, as each type of mushroom has specific needs, from temperature to nutrients. In other words, it can be a lot of work to do it properly and achieve success. Mushrooms grow plentifully in the wild, but only when the right conditions are met. Mother Nature gets a million chances to do it, you will probably get only a few, so if you're just starting out, you may want to take a few shortcuts.

If you would like to grow mushrooms but don't have the time or knowledge to devote to this endeavor, you can purchase a mushroom-growing kit. With a price tag generally between 15 and 30 dollars, these kits come already packaged with a growing medium that has been inoculated with mushroom spawn and everything else you will need to grow successfully. It takes the guesswork out of the equation and allows you to enjoy the great taste of fresh mushrooms without the time and expense of starting from scratch.

Here are a couple of different types of mushroom kits that you can purchase online. They will help you



Shiitake mushrooms growing on trees.

PHOTO CREDIT: DOMINIK18S VIA FLICKR CREATIVE COMMONS

learn how to grow your own mushrooms without the time needed to do it yourself. They also make a great gift for the mushroom lover on your list!

Back to the Roots Organic Mini Mushroom Grow Kit – Available from Back to the Roots on Amazon.com

This kit comes in a box and promises harvest in ten days! It is completely organic and non-GMO, so you can cook them with your favorite meal. The box is placed near a window with indirect light and must be kept moist by misting it twice daily. The kit includes a plant-based soil infused with mushroom spawn. The kit will produce three to four servings of mushrooms and each box can grow up to two crops.

Organic Ready to Fruit Shiitake Lentinula Edodes Blocks DIY Mushroom Grow Kit – Available from Trailbridge Farms on Etsy.com



PHOTO CREDIT: QH MUSHROOM FARM VIA ETSY.COM

A 3 lb. Golden Oyster Mushroom Grow Kit from QH Mushroom Farm, available on Etsy.com



PHOTO CREDIT: BACK TO THE ROOTS VIA AMAZON.COM

This grow kit contains a wood block, along with locally-sourced plant-based supplements, and will produce a pound or more of mushrooms, depending on the environmental conditions. The kit can be stored in the refrigerator for up to a week until it will need to be fruited. Trailbridge Farms is located in Lacombe, Oregon (about twenty miles east of Albany), so their products are already acclimated to the Pacific Northwest.

To use the kit, remove the block from the bag, place in an area with indirect sunlight or artificial light, and mist the block twice

a day. The block will provide multiple flushes of fruits.

Besides making it easy to grow mushrooms, they also make a great gift for mushroom lovers or a grand experiment for children interested in how this fungi grows and how we use it in our everyday cuisines. So this winter, expand your culinary and gardening horizons and take a stab at growing your own mushrooms. It's the perfect time to take advantage of being indoors and experimenting with something new!

More Information on Mushrooms

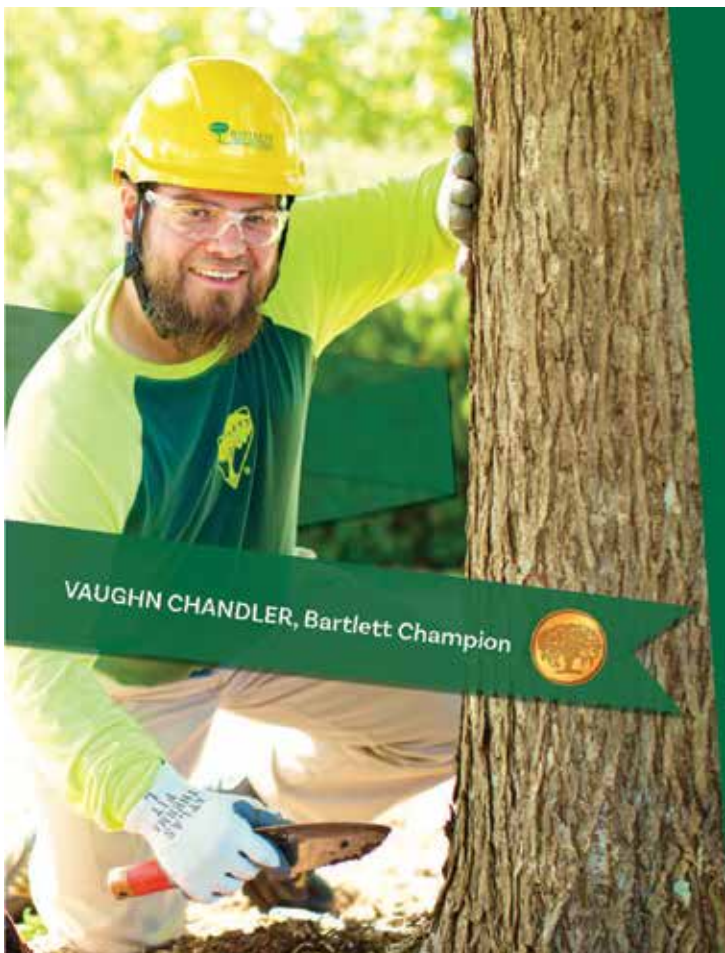
Oregon Mycological Society

<https://wildmushrooms.org>

The Back to the Roots mushroom growing kit available on Amazon.com.



Shiitake mushrooms growing on a block, from Trailbridge Farms, available on Etsy.com.



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by Ron Dunevant

Permanent marker on bricks makes for attractive and long-lasting garden markers.

"The beginning of wisdom is to call things by their right name."

--Chinese Proverb

In life, it seems, rarely are the most effective solutions to a problem also the simplest. In gardening, however, we can think of one example that is the exception to this: How to keep track of what has been planted in your garden. We gardeners, especially the most enthusiastic among us, tend to start out with grandiose ideas, followed by a change in plans, followed by reality. The result is that sometimes our gardens start out as one thing and morph into another. If you're planting vegetables from seed, this can be especially troublesome.

As the sprouts pop their heads out of the ground, suddenly we can't quite remember which section was which. Oh sure, we're usually good guessers, but what if one simple idea could put an end to all this guessing? That solution would be the garden label.

Garden labeling is certainly nothing new. You find them in any public garden, usually engraved plaques with name in bold letters and the Latin name linger-

ing below. A great idea, but for our simple gardens, nothing so ostentatious need be used. In fact, labels for the home garden can be plain, simple and – dare we say it – fun! Besides being a very useful project, this can also be a chance to let your creativity “get its hands dirty,” so to speak.

You may have tried this before. It doesn't have to be a big project. In fact, the simplest way of labeling your plants is to use a piece of wood and a bold felt marker. Anything from a Popsicle stick to a tongue depressor to a garden stake will work. Grab a Sharpie, print legibly and you're done! But if your creative side needs a little attention, you might fashion some clever and appealing garden accoutrements. Or, if you're too busy or are lacking in talent, imagination or ambition, many can also be purchased.

Here are some of the more inventive and resourceful ways to label your garden that we found on the internet.

Bricks

For those of us who want something classic, easy-to-make, and practically unbreakable, there is this

idea. Bricks are a staple in many landscapes. From borders to planters to walls, they are a classy way to add some weight and permanence to your garden. So, why not use them as labels, too?

If you have them lying around, you can use old bricks from the yard, but you'll have an easier time writing on them if you purchase new, dry bricks from your builder's supply store. The standard brick has plenty of writing space, is easy to transport and may come in two or three different colors. A permanent marker is all you need to create your message, or you can use paint if you're so inclined and want to be a little more colorful in your endeavor.

The finished product is a simple yet effective way to create labels that will last for years. Other benefits: They're sturdy, weatherproof and nearly impossible to lose. If



Common river rocks, along with a little paint, make great garden markers.

PHOTO CREDIT: THEMICROGARDENER.COM

you want them to last a little longer, spray them with a waterproof coating. Best part: They're incredibly cheap to make, so you can have them all over your garden without breaking the budget.

The photo we used came from an article on buzzfeed.com. They have more ideas for garden labels here: <https://www.buzzfeed.com/peggy/26-diy-plant-markers-for-your-springtime-garden>.

Rocks

For this idea, we've left no stone unturned. Gardeners know all too well about rocks in the garden. You can hardly stick your shovel in the ground without hitting one, so why not put them to good use?

River rocks, those stones that have nice rounded edges, are a perfect medium for plant labels. They're easy to acquire, come in a variety of sizes and make a great canvas for your artistic talents. If you're one of the lucky few without a steady source nearby, check out a local creek or riverbank. You're bound to find a bounty of these baby boulders.

Purchase some colorful paints, grab a brush and you're on your way to a fun and easy way to advertise the plants in your garden. How far you want to go with your creative side is up to you. Some people paint just the words, other coat their entire stone in different colors to make them easy to find. The truly creative will add a picture of the vegetable the stone represents, as a guide, one would



Combine wooden spoons and a little artistic talent to create these tall and tantalizing markers.

PHOTO CREDIT: THE DOODLING MOON/ETSY.COM

assume, to identify what the finished product will look like. You can find items like this pre-painted, but we think this one is simple enough that you can do it yourself. Even better: Enlist the kids to help you with this project and turn a day stuck in the house into one filled with dreams about future time spent in the garden.

The picture we used came from an article about plant labels from a website called The Microgardener. <https://themicrogardener.com/20-creative-diy-plant-labels-markers/>

Wooden Spoons

Here's a clever way to combine a love of cooking with gardening. Wooden spoons are easy to insert into the soil, can handle weather conditions, stand tall above your veggies, and have a wide area at the top where you can write the name of your plant.

You can order unfinished wood craft spoons on the internet. Two dozen are under ten dollars, making this project inexpensive. If you want to use the real thing, they cost a little more, about a dollar each when you buy a dozen. These are especially impressive when used for vegetables: Literal-



Ceramic markers are long-lasting and weather-proof. These are available on Etsy.

PHOTO CREDIT: POTTERY BY SUMIKO/ETSY.COM

ly from garden to kitchen to table!

The spoons pictured are available from a seller called The Doodling Moon via Etsy.com and can be purchased in varying amounts for about five dollars each.

Ceramic Garden Markers

OK, these are probably not for the D-I-Yer, although if you have

a talent for using clay and kilns, you might try your hand at making something like these ceramic garden markers.

We've included them here because they're classy looking and we like the pictures of veggies at the top of the marker. They may look small, but they're actually almost eight inches tall, so they can be used in the garden as well as pots, planters or even seedling beds.

Ceramic is a great choice for outdoor labeling, as it is extremely weather-resistant. Their white background makes them easy to spot in the soil. They're hand-painted and very appealing. If you're thinking about a Christmas gift for the gardener in your life, this might just be the ticket.

They're created by Pottery by Sumiko and available on Etsy.com. They're \$132 for 12, so a little spendy. But they're fun and unusual and should last for years, so they're a gift that the recipient won't soon forget. <https://www.etsy.com/shop/PotterybySumiko>

Waterproof Garden Markers



Etsy offer lots of creative variations of garden labels and provides inspiration to do-it-yourselfers.

PHOTO CREDIT: DANNOMYTE SHOP/ETSY.COM



If you have a love of wine, re-purposing the empties is a great way to combine it with your love of gardening.

Here's an idea that's an upgrade to the aforementioned tongue depressor label. As long as you have the wooden stick, why not add a little art while you're at it? If you have a nice color printer and a laminating machine, you can make yourself some nifty yard signs that will impress the neighbors and should last for many years.

Start with a picture theme. Whether you want to draw your own art or if you'd rather just find some pictures to represent your plants, you can choose a design that speaks to your own sensibilities. Print onto some heavy card stock. Laminate to make it waterproof and glue it to the wooden stick. Voila! You have a useful and unique garden label.

For those without a laminating machine (doesn't everyone have one?), consider spraying the printed paper with some of that rubber-in-a-can spray (clear). That will protect your paper from the elements, although not as effectively as the laminator.

You can also purchase these from several vendors on the internet. We found some that were particularly pleasing at a site on Etsy.com called Dannomyte Shop. They offer 16 of their Vegetable Garden Markers, waterproof with wooden stakes, for \$35.00. It's another great gift idea for the gardeners on your list. <https://www.etsy.com/shop/DannomyteShop>

Wine Bottles

Whether you're a devoted oenophile or just a casual consumer of Cabernet, this is the real reason you drink: to save the bottles to use for garden labels!

Let's face it. There's no better way to tie your love of drinking with your love of gardening than to use the empties in the garden. The glass containers are sturdy and weatherproof. Remove the label and you have a curved canvas capable of supporting anything from block letters to stencils to painted artistry. There's really no limits to what you can do, and the pointed top of the bottle anchors securely

into the soil.

If you're really creative or have a flair for electronics, you could stuff some solar lights up inside the bottle for a dazzling light display that illuminates your garden in the evenings. The possibilities are practically endless and you may find yourself spending more time playing with your labels than gardening...which was not our intention. Everything in moderation!

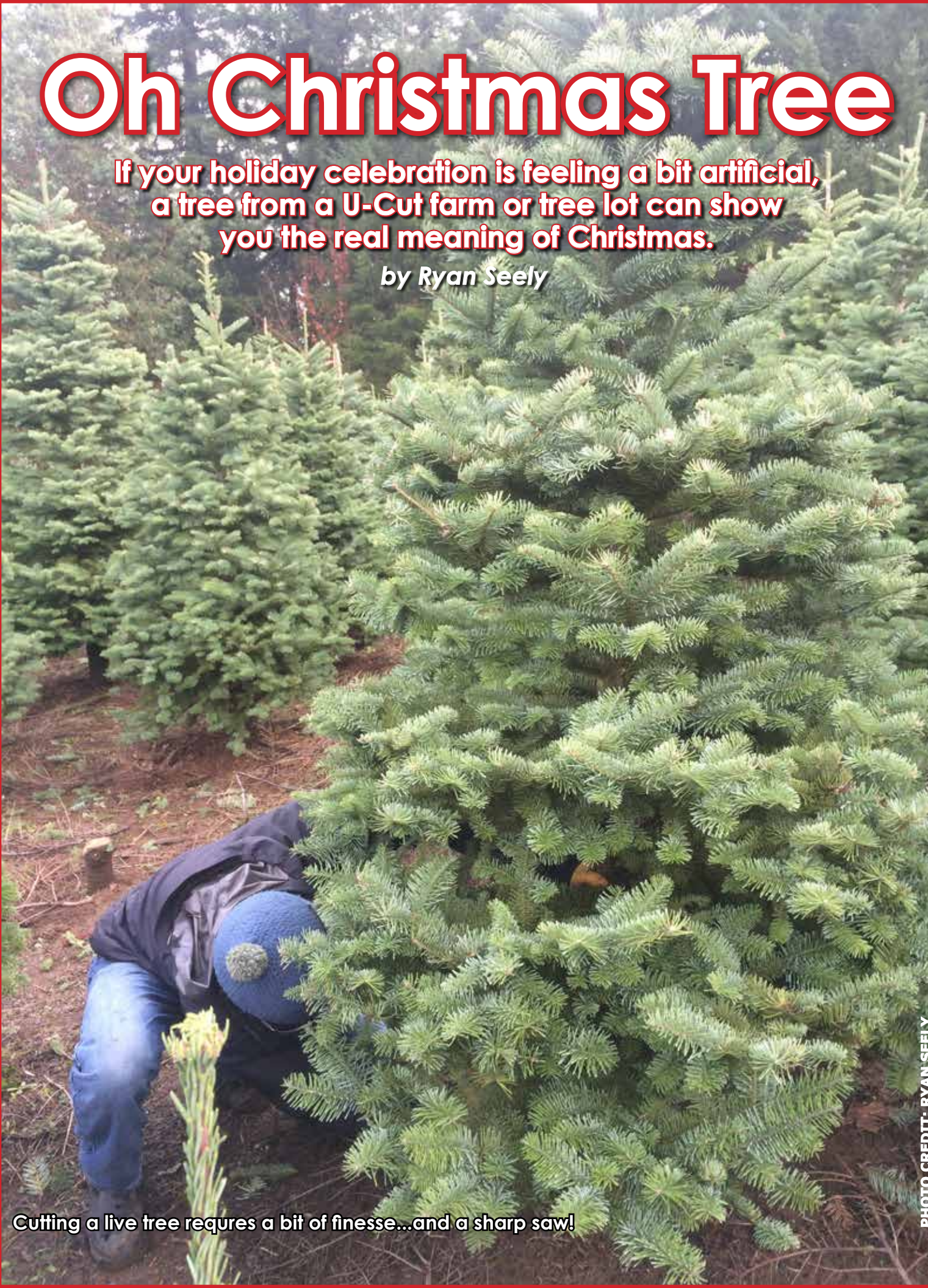
The picture we used came from Pinterest.com, another great place to find ideas for garden labels!

We have a long winter ahead and it looks like many of us will be staying indoors more for the foreseeable future. Why not get a jump on the spring gardening season and start a project of your own creating garden labels? They'll help pass the time and keep you excited about the coming season when, hopefully, we'll all be able to get out and enjoy our gardens – and each other -- once again.

Oh Christmas Tree

If your holiday celebration is feeling a bit artificial,
a tree from a U-Cut farm or tree lot can show
you the real meaning of Christmas.

by Ryan Seely



Cutting a live tree requires a bit of finesse...and a sharp saw!

PHOTO CREDIT: RYAN SEELY

One of my family's favorite holiday traditions is to cut down our Christmas tree in preparation for the upcoming holiday. In past years, we have found the perfect tree in the forests of both Tillamook and Deschutes County, as well as U-cut Christmas Tree Farms in Clackamas and Yamhill counties. It's become a wonderful rite of passage that kicks off the upcoming holiday season, and provides an opportunity for our immediate family to mingle and celebrate with relatives we don't see often enough. And this year, Christmas tree hunting outdoors allows for time with relatives in a safe and socially-distant venue during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The history of Christmas trees began long before the advent of Christianity. Evergreen plants and trees were considered to ward away evil spirits such as witches, ghosts, and even illness. They would hang evergreen boughs over their doors and windows to ensure safety for their family. In the 16th century, German devout Christians began to bring decorated trees into their homes. Additionally, it is believed that Martin Luther was the first to add lighted candles to a tree. One winter evening when he was walking home, he observed the brilliant stars in the sky against the evergreen trees. He wanted to recreate the experience for his family, and brought an evergreen tree into his home, and added lit candles to the boughs of the tree. The Christmas tree made its way across the ocean from continental Europe via Great Britain, when the German-born Prince Albert and Queen Victoria were sketched standing around their Christmas tree with their family. East Coast Americans picked up the tradition, and it spread across North America.

In the United States, 350 million Christmas trees were grown in 2019, with trees grown in all fifty states, including Hawaii. The top two producing states are North Carolina and Oregon, with nearly

80% of all trees grown in these states. In the Pacific Northwest, 92% of Christmas trees are exported out of the region, with 45% of the crop destined for the state of California. Other foreign destinations include China, Japan, Mexico and the Philippines. In spite of the large domestic and foreign markets, the sheer number of live Christmas trees produced has shrunk from fifty years ago, due to the popularity of artificial trees. As home sizes have grown over the decades, the demand for taller trees (10-12 feet) has grown as well. Artificial trees fill this demand, and many consumers have made the switch from live to artificial trees.

However, before you consider the switch from live to artificial, consider the below facts:

- **Christmas trees are grown to be harvested.**
- **Purchasing a live tree supports a local farmer.**
- **93% of consumers with real Christmas trees recycle their trees.**
- **Growing Christmas trees provides a habitat for wildlife.**
- **Christmas trees remove dust and pollen from the air.**



Ryan Seely's son Brett lays claim to the perfect Christmas tree.

PHOTO CREDIT: RYAN SEELY



Christmas trees on display at a tree lot in Lake Oswego.

PHOTO CREDIT: RYAN SEELY



Brett Seely hauls in his catch of the day.

PHOTO CREDIT: RYAN SEELY

- **Artificial trees will last for six years in your home, but centuries in a landfill.**
- **An acre of Christmas trees provides the daily oxygen requirements of 18 people.**

Amazingly, in spite of our excellent climate for producing Christmas trees, the industry is experiencing a shortage. In 2008 during the Great Recession, there was an over-abundance of Christmas trees resulting in very low prices. As a result, many Christmas tree growers reduced the number of trees they were planting. Fast forward 8-12 years later and mature trees that are ready to be cut are still in short supply. That means that consumers will not have the selection normally available to them in the next few years. However, this shortage won't last long, as the Christmas tree industry is cyclical, and we expect that the supply will increase in just a few short years.

Purchasing your live Christmas tree is easy, whether you choose your favorite garden center, tree lot, or U-cut Christmas tree farm. In fact, my son's Scout Troop has run a lot for almost 75 years in Lake Oswego's George Roger's Park. Here are a couple of resources to help find the perfect live tree:

- Pacific Northwest Christmas Tree Association: Since 1955, the Pacific Northwest Christmas

Tree Association has played a leading role in providing guidance to Christmas tree growers in the Northwest. They bring together those involved in the industry for mutual and public benefit by sponsoring educational and public relations efforts, looking out for environmental stewardship and conducting research. <http://www.nwchristmastrees.org/>

- Oregon Christmas Tree Growers Association: Founded over 20 years ago, Oregon Christmas Tree Growers Association, has always been an independent grower network providing fresh quality Christmas trees. Member farms are family owned and operated, but work together to provide buyers the variety and benefits similar to working with a large grower. Each grower determines their own pricing, so please contact members directly to obtain price lists. <https://www.oregonchristmastreegrowers.com/our-growers>

Regardless of where you buy your Christmas tree, consider buying fresh, local and live trees from growers in the Pacific Northwest. This tradition has been a family favorite of mine for years, and we have made so many wonderful memories and will continue to do so for years to come!



A truck loaded with fresh-cut Christmas trees arrives at a tree lot.

PHOTO CREDIT: RYAN SEELY



PHOTO CREDIT: THEDAILYMEAL.COM

Peace on Earth?

The holidays are stressful even in the best of times. This year, give yourself one less headache with a few basic tips and the right menu that works for any size gathering.

by David Musial

This is a reprint of an article originally written in 2014. In this time of COVID-19, we encourage you to follow all state and federal guidelines for public and private gatherings, and we wish you a safe and happy holiday season.

--The Editors at Garden Time

They say that it is better to give than receive and during the holiday season, that may mean giving a party. Although you may prefer receiving an invitation to a party than giving one, sooner or later it will be your turn to host. Fear not, there are steps to take that can make it a fun and successful event.

Hosting a holiday party should not be a stressful event, but with all the details it can be a little overwhelming. Food quite often seems to be on the top of the stress list, but we'll show that

with a few basic tips and the right menu you can cross food off your list of holiday party stressors.

We all want to showcase our cooking skills when we entertain our guests, but if you spend all your time making food from scratch, you will be exhausted before your guests arrive. It is OK to serve prepared or store bought food. In fact, I recently heard a successful caterer say that when she entertains at home, she only prepares 50-60% of the food from scratch. If it's good enough for a profes-

sional, it's good enough for us.

Along that same thought, remember that presentation will make the ordinary look and taste extraordinary. With beautiful plating, your guests may not even know that they are being served dishes that weren't made from scratch.

Another rule that I've been known to break is to not try a new recipe out on your guests. It may be a success, but the time stressing about whether it will taste good is just not worth the

worry. If you want to try a new recipe, give it a try before your party.

Entertaining is more than cooking and serving, it's also about socializing and no one wants to spend the entire evening in the kitchen cooking. One of the simplest solutions is to serve food that can be prepared in advance. This can be food that is ready to serve or ready to cook, but the key word is ready.

To successfully prepare food in a restaurant requires a fully staffed kitchen. If only one person were cooking all the dishes, the restaurant would fail. Your party is no different so don't be afraid to ask for help. There is always someone at the party who would love to help in the kitchen and if you know who that someone is, ask them if they would like to help before they arrive.

Lastly remember that planning is the key. The success or failure of your event hinges on planning.

Building on these guidelines, are a few food ideas to get you started. Included are ideas to use prepared food and some recipes for food made from scratch that can be made ahead.

Prepared Foods

One of my favorite prepared food appetizers is a meat and cheese plate. The prepared ones from the store are fine, but if you want to make it really special, head to your local food specialty store and create your own. Pick two meats, one or two cheeses, a dried or fresh fruit, and some nuts. Two of my favorite meats are Soppressata and Serrano ham. Pair this with a wedge of Manchego cheese and you have the building blocks for a great plate of food. Add some Marcona almonds, dried fruit, a



Mini frittatas are flavorful and filling.

sliced baguette, and plate artfully. What's great is that while the deli is getting your meat and cheese, you can continue shopping.

If you were looking to serve small sandwiches to your guests, let them build their own. You can create a platter with meats, cheese and all the accoutrements (artisan bread, whole grain mustard and mayonnaise), along with some deli olives and fruit. Your guests get to create a sandwich their way and since you don't need to make them, you get to save time.

The key to store bought or prepared food is the presentation. If it's beautiful, no one will think about

whether you made it or not. They will just want to eat it. Take a look at the internet for plating ideas on food you want to serve. You will readily see the difference between an OK plate of food and one that is a work of art.

Make Ahead Food

For a caterer to be successful, it is necessary to prepare a lot of their food in advance. Some is made, plated and held, some is made ahead of time and plated just before serving and some dishes are made ahead and require heating and plating. Here are some make ahead ideas for you to try.

Olives make a great appetizer and they can be elevated by marinating them. It's quick and easy, and once they're made, all you need to do is place in your serving dish. There are so many varieties available now, try a mix of olives to give your



Citrus marinated olives are beautiful to look at and delicious to eat.

guests a unique treat. I am partial to citrus fruit and olives, and offer this recipe: <https://www.bonappetit.com/recipe/citrus-marinated-olives>.

Another make ahead favorite is a frittata. This egg dish can be made ahead and chilled. Just before serving, bring it out and let it come to room temperature. Here is a recipe from Giada De Laurentiis that makes individual portions: <https://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/giada-de-laurentiis/mini-frittatas-recipe-1944892>. The flavor combinations are endless and one of my favorites is Spanish chorizo, roasted red pepper, potato and Manchego

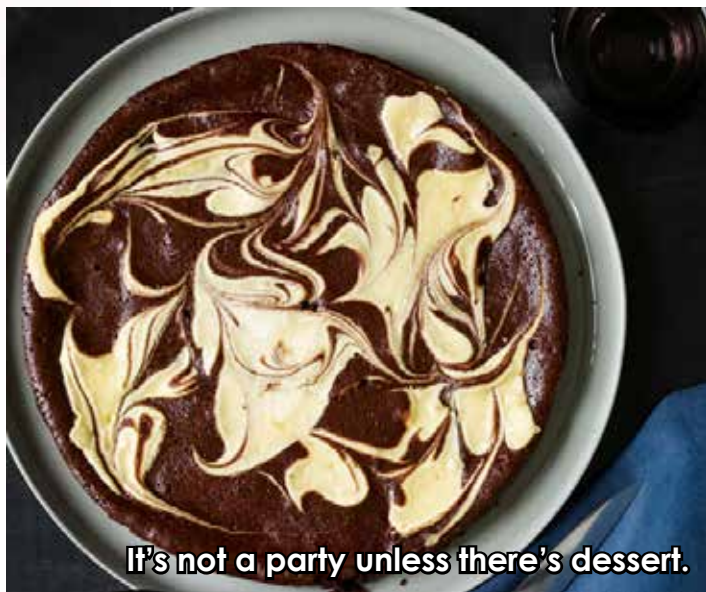


Hot artichoke dip with pita chips will make your guests forget all about onion dip.

cheese. Served on a platter with a sprinkling of smoked paprika and you have a beautiful dish.

One of my favorite appetizers is chicken liver pâté with crostini. It is a rich appetizer and the pâté can be made several days in advance, while the crostini can be made several hours before your event. Here is the link to an easy and delicious pâté recipe by Jacques Pépin: <https://www.foodandwine.com/recipes/chicken-liver-pate-march-2007>.

Everyone loves onion dip and chips at a party, however, a festive alternative would be to prepare a baked artichoke dip served with pita or



It's not a party unless there's dessert.

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www.gardentime.tv/store



My favorite plate to serve and order!

PHOTO CREDIT: HONESTLYYUM.COM



Rich and decadent, liver pâtés are easy to make.

PHOTO CREDIT: WWW.HEALTHYFELLOW.COM

bagel chips. Made in advance and baked just before your guests arrive, they will think you've been cooking all day. Here is a link to an easy and flavorful recipe: <https://www.marthastewart.com/349075/worlds-greatest-onion-dip>

If you still want to have onion dip, why not try your hand at making your own. It is a little more work than adding a spice packet to a pint of sour cream, but the results are worth the time. Give this recipe a try and yes, I know I said that everything doesn't need to be from scratch, but I'm not recommending you make the chips:

<https://www.epicurious.com/recipes/food/views/Baked-Artichoke-Dip-104684>. Question: What's a party without dessert? Answer: Not as sweet as it could be! Making desserts can be time consuming, but they can be prepared ahead of time. Cookies and cakes freeze well and can be made a week or more in advance.



Stuffed and wrapped dates are a great make ahead appetizer.

All you need to do is thaw, slice and garnish. One of my favorite magazines, Fine Cooking, has a wonderful recipe for Flourless Chocolate and Vanilla Marble Cake. It can be frozen for up to thirty days and served with a few raspberries will make an elegant dessert: <https://www.finecooking.com/recipe/flourless-chocolate-vanilla-marble-cake>.

Hosting a party doesn't need to be stressful, and by following these tips and using some simple recipes, you can not only give a great party, but can also receive compliments. Giving and receiving. Now that's a recipe for success.

Hope you enjoyed my gift of serving Holiday Entertaining Food Tips.

Happy Holidays!

Available Now! Garden Time Flowers

In celebration of Garden Time, we are proud to tell you about three flowers that have been named in our honor. The *Garden Time Dahlia* comes from Swan Island Dahlias, the *Garden Time Rose* was introduced by Heirloom Roses and the *Garden Time Iris* is from Schreiner's Iris Gardens. Check them out and put a little *Garden Time* in your yard!



Garden Time Dahlia



Garden Time Rose



Garden Time Iris

ORDER TODAY!

More information at The Garden Time Store

www.gardentime.tv/store



Garden Time

WTDITG

Wow! Where did the time go? Another year over. The holiday season is always a busy time, and many of us find it hard to fit in a little work in the yard. But our plants need us, especially now. Carve out a few hours during December to make sure your plants are safe and warm for the winter. It will be the best present you can give them.

PLANNING

- Be ready for a cold snap. In case the temperature drops fast you'll want to be prepared to cover the plants. Using the Harvest Guard Protective Yard & Garden Cloth (AKA 'reemay') will protect the plants against severe cold temperatures. Cover only in



the cold spells, remove when temperatures rise again. Multiple layers will protect to lower temperatures.



- Plan a family trip to choose a live Christmas tree for this year's holiday. Live trees are just the best idea when thinking

green; a tree you can plant with the family after the holidays; a tradition that will grow with the family!

Some of you think it is better to use artificial trees as they are good for the environment. Nope! Artificial trees are generally made in China, pollute the atmosphere when being manufactured, fill up landfills and contain harmful chemicals. Instead of a fake tree this year, adopt a real one. Share the gift of life with the family with a live tree you can enjoy for decades.



- Organize your garden journal. Go over the notes from the year and set some goals and plans for next year.

PLANTING

- If you find your spring bulbs in a sack in the shed, get them planted! They are not going to sprout roots and grow in



the sack and yes it's late but there is still time to get them in the ground. If you don't plant them this month, it really will be too late.

- OK to plant trees and shrubs now. In our part of the world, if you can dig a hole in the soil,

you can still plant. Roots will still grow a little all winter long, so getting them in now will allow some root development during winter.



TASKS, MAINTENANCE & CLEAN-UP

- Time to clean out the Mason Bee condos and clean up the cocoons and get the condo system ready for the new season.

when you turn it over helps to break down the organic matter faster. Keep the pile from getting too waterlogged with a tarp or cover.

- Turn the compost pile. Adding oxygen to the pile

- Make sure that weeds are pulled away from the

What To Do In The Garden DECEMBER

base of trees and that bark or mulch is not too deep around trunks. Rodents like to chew on the bark and the hiding places the weeds or mulch provides should be eliminated.



- Make sure that any plant underneath big thirsty conifers or under the eave of the house is getting a good deep drink

of water once every 4-6 weeks. Plants can take more severe cold weather with hydrated cells than dehydrated cells.

- You can fertilize the lawn now if you haven't done so in the last two months. Lawns are still growing roots during the winter and you can improve the green color by applying a lawn food now. Using one with a moss killer will help kill off the moss over the winter. Apply a dose of dolomite lime to the lawn if none has been applied for a year. Don't use a weed-n-feed now, the weeds will just grow, not die. The chemicals in the weed killer need much warmer temperatures to work.

- Don't walk on frozen grass until it thaws. You will see your footprints on the turf in the spring otherwise.

- Watch for aphids on spruce trees. Often in the winter the spruces can get attacked by aphids. We don't usually notice until it's too late in the spring when all the old foliage falls off. Hose the trees off with a strong stream of water to knock any aphids from the needles. You can check and see if they are on the trees by holding white paper under a branch end and tap hard. Check for infestations by holding white paper under various branches and tapping. If they are present you'll see some on the paper.



- Dormant spray the fruit trees as needed for control of overwintering insects and diseases. However, no spray is needed if no disease or insect problem was detected this past season. Dormant Spray Oil is used to smother the overwintering insects

and Copper Sprays are good for disease control. Spray according to directions on the label.



- Pruning: It is not time to prune but time to STUDY UP on the subject! Pruning fruit trees is discussed in great detail in many books

and articles. We highly recommend reading up on the subject before making cuts that you can't glue back on the tree. Read up and take good care of your trees. You'll get much more production from them if you do.

- Get after any weeds that are growing now before they go to seed. Covering the beds with thick mulch after the weed pulling can help deter them further.



VEGETABLE GARDEN



- Do a recap of the successes and the failures. Start to plan what you want to grow next year and begin the process of finding out what grows best together in regards to companion planting.

- Check on the veggies you are wintering over. Make sure the

compost mulch is nice and thick over the crops you are storing in the ground.

- Make out your wish list of things you'd like from Santa, like seed starting supplies, pruners, gardening tools and gloves.



Maybe some beautiful outdoor pottery to feature pretty flowers near the front entry for guests. Or a big fat gift certificate so you can come pick out what you want this next year!



PLAY TIME

Gardening Events Around Town

As state and local restrictions are lifted and some are reinstated, some gardens and garden centers are re-opening their venues and scheduling events.

The information printed herein was accurate at the time of publication, but we cannot promise it will remain so. Therefore, we encourage you to visit the websites of the nurseries or organizations sponsoring specific events to make sure you are reading the most accurate and up-to-date information.

Thank you for your understanding.

--The Staff at Garden Time Magazine

Oregon Zoolights November 22, 2020 thru January 10, 2021 (except December 25)

The Oregon Zoo, Portland, OR

One of our areas most beloved and anticipated holiday light show traditions will take place this month but like so many events this year, Zoolights will look a little different. Instead of the traditional walk-through experience where participants can immerse themselves in the beauty and brilliance of 1.5 million holiday lights, this year Zoolights will be offering a drive-through experience. Dates: Zoolights runs from Nov. 22, 2020 to Jan. 10, 2021, with the exception of Dec. 25. Pricing varies depending on the date (\$40 - 65 per car). <https://www.oregonzoo.org>

Winter Wonderland November 27, 2020-January 2, 2021

Portland International Raceway, Portland, OR

Recognized throughout the Pacific Northwest as the "Largest Holiday Light Show West of the Mississippi", the 28th annual Safeway Winter Wonderland powered by Advantis Credit Union, will grab your attention with glimmers and glows around every corner. Cashless entry to the racetrack with online-only tickets available for purchase. Purchase tickets at <http://winterwonderlandportland.com/tickets/>. All proceeds from the event will benefit the Sunshine Division. Please no chains or studded tires on the racetrack. Hours: Sunday–Thursday, 5:00pm–9:30pm and Friday–Saturday, 4:30pm–10:00pm. The week of Christmas, Sun., Dec. 20th – Sat., Dec. 26th, we will have special extended hours from

continued next column

4:30 pm – 10:00 pm. 1940 N Victory Blvd., Portland, OR 97217. <https://www.portlandraceway.com>

Lights at the Oregon Garden Resort Tuesday, December 1, 2020–January 2, 2020 • 5:00pm to 9:00pm

Oregon Garden Resort, Silverton, OR

(Event closed Thursday, December 24th and Friday, December 25th) We are sad to announce that Christmas in the Garden has been postponed until 2021 based on concerns regarding COVID-19 and guest safety. HOWEVER, we are excited to offer a new, limited and intimate light display, Lights at the Oregon Garden Resort. The lights will surround the Resort's main lodge, including many favorite displays from Christmas in the Garden, and will be available only for guests staying at the Resort. We will also have live holiday music, cozy fire pits, festive food and drink and more to safely celebrate the holidays, social distance style. We hope you'll join us! For more information and to book your overnight stay, visit: <https://christmasinthegarden.com/>. Oregon Garden Resort, 895 W Main St., Silverton, OR 97381. 503-874-2539. Check out our local gardens virtually while they are temporarily closed.

Portland Japanese Garden

Currently closed to prevent the spread of COVID-19 but please check our website and facebook page for up-to-date information. <https://japanesegarden.org/visitvirtually/>. <https://www.facebook.com/Portland-JapaneseGarden/>.

Lan Su Chinese Garden

Currently closed to prevent the spread of COVID-19 but please check our website and facebook page for up-to-date information. <https://www.facebook.com/lansuchinesegarden>. <https://lansugarden.org>.

LOOKING FOR MORE?

You will find more events and updated information on the Garden Time Events Calendar
www.gardentime.tv/events.htm

THIS TOUR HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED FOR 2021. LIMITED OPENINGS STILL AVAILABLE!

Garden Time Tours



Lisbon, Portugal



Madrid, Spain

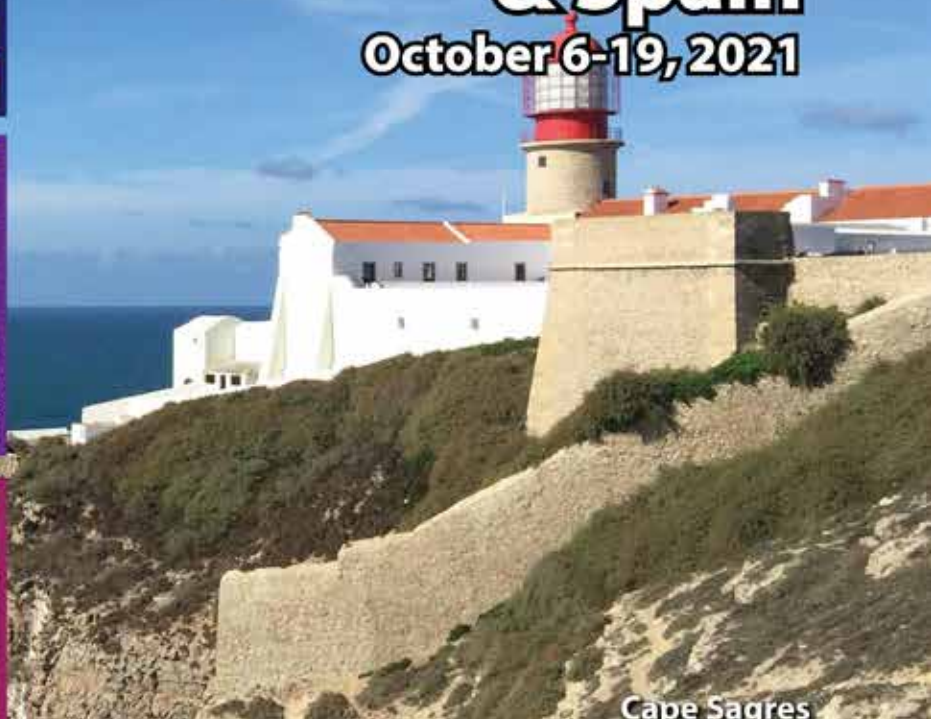


Granada, Spain



Seville, Spain

**Travel with *Garden Time* to
Portugal
& Spain**
October 6-19, 2021



Cape Sagres

14 Days/13 Nights •

All Breakfasts plus 13 Additional Meals Included

Join the Garden Time Gang on our next tour of fabulous Portugal and Spain, with scheduled stops in Lisbon, Cape Sagres, Seville, Granada, and Madrid.

As with every Garden Time Tour, you'll see local gardens and landmarks, with tours set up especially for our group. Plus, we'll stay at fine hotels, enjoy excellent meals, drink delicious wines and experience the sights and sounds of these amazing destinations.

We're still finalizing the details, but mark your calendars for October 2021 as Garden Time Tours hits the road on another unforgettable trip!

**Join us for this exciting
Garden Time Tour!**

To get on the list to be contacted when this tour opens up, email your name and contact info to: gardentime@comcast.net.

These tours fill up fast so don't wait!

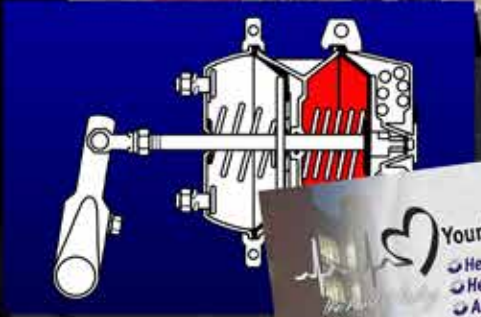
www.GardenTime.tv/tours

***TOUR DATES, DESTINATIONS AND DETAILS ARE NOT YET FINALIZED AND MAY CHANGE. SEE THE TOURS PAGE ON OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATED INFORMATION.**

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