

CEDAR RIVER GARDEN CENTER 2889 Palo Marsh RD Palo, IA 52324 319.851.2161 www.cedarrivergardencenter.com

Tree Trimming is Now

It is best to prune deciduous trees before they have leafed out for the season. We are experiencing cooler than average temperatures. With that you are able to extend pruning time.

Why is late winter/early spring blooming the best?

Easy to see branches without leaves obstructing view A burst of energy is released as they are waking to heal the wounds faster With fewer branches to push out new growth you will

see a faster flush of leaves

Trees to be trimmed now (to name a few):

Apple Cherry Pear Peach Plum Grapes (may bleed, but will not harm vines) Spruce Fir Pine Juniper Yew

Maple (may bleed, but will not detrimentally hurt tree) Mountain Ash Hawthorn

Trees that should NOT be trimmed now:

Oak Lilac

Flowering Dogwood

Any other variety that blooms on new growth (typically spring bloomers)

Note for pruning Pine:

Do not prune Pines below the candle (new growth) for the season. New growth with **not** emerge below the candle. Once the candles are removed the tree/shrub will not get any height beyond that point.





Pine Pruning Photo: Wilsons Orchard



Deciduous Tree Pruning





Evergreen Pruning Photo: Johnsons Nursery

2019 Dirty Dozen

Every year the non-profit Environmental Working Group, EWG, checks produce for acceptable levels of residual pesticides. Using 40,900 samples for 47 different types of produce, the EWG found these twelve (Dirty Dozen) had the most pesticide residue.

The silver lining out of the 2019 "Dirty Dozen" is that most of the produce can be grown in your backyard!! Not only can you create a more healthy lifestyle from the physical side of gardening, but you can also control what chemicals you are using on your garden. WIN WIN!

It saddened us to see Spinach and Kale toward the top of the list. Both Kale and Spinach are the healthy powerhouses of the leafy salad types. We won't stop enjoying them, but will definitely be making space for them in our home gardens.

Dirty Dozen

- 1. Strawberries (4th
 - year in
 - a
 - row)
- 2. Spinach
- 3. Kale
- 4. Nectarines
- 5. Apples
- 6. Grapes
- 7. Peaches

- 8. Cherries
- 9. Pears
- 10. Tomatoes
- 11. Celery
- 12. Potatoes

Clean 15

- 1. Avocados
- 2. Sweet Corn
- 3. Pineapples
- 4. Sweet Peas (frozen)
- 5. Onions
- 6. Papayas
- 7. Eggplants
- 8. Asparagus
- 9. Kiwis
- 10. Cabbages
- 11. Cauliflower
- 12. Cantaloupes
- 13. Broccoli
- 14. Mushrooms
- 15. Honeydew Melons

Pro Tip: Lower rates of pesticides will be found in produce where the skin or rind is removed prior to consumption.



Finding New Homes

Even with the cooler weather, our plants have already been finding new homes! Most of what we have in **now** are specialty plants we can only get in once per season. We have grown the bulk of our current stock of **annuals** and **perennials** from bareroot or plug and because of space reasons, we only do that once. We will be looking more fully stocked towards the end of April and we can't wait!





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