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SERVING GLYNN, CAMDEN, MCINTOSH, WAYNE, LIBERTY, BRYAN & CHATHAM COUNTIES | **DECEMBER 2019**



Keep the Season Lively with Color

Late fall and winter are great times to bring out dramatic contrasts in your landscape that are perfect for the holidays. The blue greens of evergreens, bright berries of hollies and other plants, and crimson, gold and purple tones create a festival look that is more subtle than the brighter colors of mid-season. Best of all, many of the highlights of your winter landscape can be brought indoors to further brighten the holidays.

Outside, evergreens form a foundation of greenery, but conifers can also lend colors from bronze and purple to gold and red. Unique shapes and barks on trees like the river birch and paperbark maple also add interest.

Try using the same pots and containers you filled with summer flowers to plant ornamental cabbages and kales, perennials like flax lily or ivies. You can even fill window boxes with branches from evergreens, including those from your own real Christmas tree after the holiday.

Of course, you can always bring a little of the beauty of the outdoors inside with ideas as simple as pinecones in a decorative basket. Try creating a festive, natural centerpiece using evergreen branches and pinecones with a few dried flowers or even fresh fruits added. Cut branches right before they're needed for a fresh look and smell. You can keep branches stored in a dark plastic bag until you're ready for them.

Of course, wreaths using vines, evergreen branches, or pinecones will look wonderful during the holiday or any time of year. Pinecones, berries and even flowers dried or pressed from earlier in the year can make wonderful, natural-looking ornaments. Or try adding a little evergreen or pinecones to gift wrapping or decorative candles for a festive look.

This year, bring the holidays to life indoors and out with nature and a little imagination!



The Poinsettia

Did you know...

- The poinsettia's main attraction is not its flowers, but its leaves? The flowers of the plant are the yellow clustered buds in the center. The colored leafy parts are actually bracts or modified leaves that turn color in response to the plant forming flowers. When buying a poinsettia, make sure it has the buds, preferably not yet open.
- Poinsettias are the bestselling potted plant in the United States and Canada. These plants are the most popular Christmas plant and are sold within a six-week period leading up to the holiday with women purchasing 80% of the poinsettia sales.
- Poinsettias contribute over \$250 million dollars to the US economy at the retail level.
- Poinsettias are not frost-tolerant. They will grow outdoors in temperate coastal climates. In the ground, they can reach 10 feet tall.
- A native of southern Mexico, the poinsettia blooms in December and has been used in that country to decorate churches for centuries.
- The Aztecs considered the red color of the Poinsettia a symbol of purity, and so poinsettias were traditionally part of religious ceremonies. In Mexico and Guatemala, the poinsettia is known as "La Flor de la Nochebuena" translated, the "Flower of the Holy Night" referring to Christmas Eve.
- Dr. Joel Roberts Poinsett, an amateur botanist and the first United States ambassador to Mexico, introduced the plant to the U.S. Most botanists at that time dismissed the poinsettia as a weed.
- The best way to prolong the life of this Christmas plant. Avoid hot or cold drafts, keep the soil moist not soggy, and place in a room with sufficient natural light and temperatures of around 60 to 70 degrees F. Water when the soil begins to dry. Once the leaves wilt too far, it's too late.
- Poinsettias are not poisonous. A 50 lb. child would have to eat more than 500 leaves to suffer any harmful effects. However, they should be kept away from pets, which can become ill after eating the leaves. Those people with allergies to latex may have a reaction after touching the leaves (most likely from the sap that the plant oozes).
- Poinsettias require 12 hours of darkness for a minimum of five days in a row in order for the bracts to change color. Once the bracts have reached full color the more sunlight, they get the brighter and more vibrant the colors will be.
- December 12th is "National Poinsettia Day."

Caring for Holiday Plants

You receive a beautiful holiday plant, and you find yourself groaning as you think of the care you don't know how to provide. Well cheer up. The old saying about needing a "green thumb" to grow plants successfully is just not true.

There are cooks who just "know" how much of what spice to add, and there are some people who have the knack for growing great houseplants. But there are also cooks who get delicious results by carefully following a recipe, and in the same way, anyone can grow healthy plants by following simple rules for their care and feeding.

Christmas gift plants like azalea, Christmas pepper, Christmas cherry, cyclamen, Rieger elatior begonia, poinsettia and others, will stay attractive long after the holiday season, provided you furnish the conditions and care they require.

- All require bright light during the day and a cool room (about 65 degrees) at night
- All need watering before the soil is dry to the touch
- Water cyclamen around the edges of the pot because water in the crown may cause rot or set cyclamen in a dish of water and let it soak up moisture
- Never let the soil dry out while the plant is in flower or the leaves will turn yellow

Most gift plants come with instructions so whether you follow the given instructions or give the above care, you'll discover you can grow houseplants.

*Enjoy
and
Merry
Christmas!*



We want to take a moment to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! During the month of December our team will be working "short" work weeks around Christmas and New Year's. Our team schedules are the following:

Crews will be working:

Week of Christmas: Dec. 26th – 28th

Week of New Year's: Dec. 30th, Jan. 2nd – 3rd

Returning to regular schedules Jan. 6th

Office hours:

Week of Christmas: Dec. 23rd, Dec. 26th – 27th

Week of New Year's: Dec. 30th, Jan. 2nd – 3rd

Returning to regular schedules Jan. 6th

As always you should be able to reach your CRM by way of their cell phone if there is an emergency matter. We hope that you will take time during the holiday season to stop and take in all the magical moments and remember just WHY we celebrate Christmas!!

Thank you and we look forward to all the wonderful possibilities to come in 2020.

Thank You!

It's been great working with you this year to beautify your lawn and landscape, and we hope you know that you can contact us anytime you have a question or concern.

We're here for you all year long, and we really appreciate your continued business. Our respect for the environment and our love of the outdoors help us to keep your corner of the world a greener and healthier place to live. And because we truly enjoy our work, you can rest assured that we're fully committed to your continued satisfaction. You can always depend on us for prompt service, professional advice and responsible care.



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RELATIONSHIPS... THE ROOTS OF OUR BUSINESS.

Professional landscaping services tailored to your long-term property needs.

Coastal Greenery is the grounds maintenance choice of property managers in Southeast Georgia — Savannah, Richmond Hill, Brunswick, St. Simons Island, Jekyll Island, Kingsland and St. Mary's. Embracing a proactive approach, Coastal Greenery's expert team offers professional landscaping services to manage Georgia's southeast backdrops. Our dedicated, experienced landscape professionals provide full-service property maintenance solutions for:



**Commercial and Office Parks | Homeowner Associations and Condominiums
Industrial Sites | Residential Properties**

Defined by our horticultural expertise and superior workmanship, Coastal Greenery will customize your landscape program to suit your site and budget requirements. Visit us online to learn more and view our portfolio, or call to schedule a consultation with our property management team.

Contact the **COASTAL GREENERY** Team

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