



Creating Winter Interest In the Garden



As fall colors fade and temperatures start to lower, there are still many plants to enjoy in the garden. Gardening in Northeast Ohio should not be a three-season hobby; it should fill you with enjoyment all year round. In order to appreciate the winter garden you must observe the subtle beauty of nature and what interest it can provide. Imagine the Pin Oak's resilient leaves, the sparkling, ice covered berries of Holly and Viburnum, the graceful shape of a Japanese Maple, and the curling bark of the River Birch. The following list of plants will help complete your landscape with winter interest and enjoyment.

Evergreens - look for differences in shape, foliage/needle color, texture & topiaries

Abies-Fir

Buxus-Boxwood

Cedrus atlantica-Blue Atlas Cedar

Chamaecyparis-Falsecypress (Dwarf Hinoki, Golden Mop, etc.)

Ilex-Holly (Inkberry, English, etc.)

Juniperus-Juniper

Microbiota-Siberian Cypress

Picea-Spruce (Alberta, Colorado Blue, Norway, etc.)

Pinus-Pine (Mugho, White, etc.)

Rhododendron/*Azalea*

Taxus-Yew

Thuja-Arborvitae (Emerald, Rheingold, etc.)

Tsuga-Hemlock

Persistent Fruit -attractive, and helps feed the birds

Aronia-Chokeberry (red to black)

Callicarpa-Japanese Beautyberry (purple)

Cotoneaster (red, pink)

Crataegus-Hawthorn (red)

Ilex-Holly, especially "Winterberry" (red, orange, yellow, blue)

Malus-Crabapple (red, orange, yellow)

Myrica-Bayberry (silver to blue)

Pyracantha-Firethorn (orange)

Rhamnus-Buckthorn (black)

Rhus-Sumac (red clusters)

Rosa-Rose, especially Rugosa types (orange to red hips)

Symphoricarpos-Coralberry, Indiancurrent

Viburnum (coral, red, blue, black)

Bark - various colors intensify & exfoliation appears as leaves and temperatures fall

Acer griseum-Paperbark Maple

Acer palmatum-Japanese Maple "Coral Bark" varieties

Amelanchier-Serviceberry (grey and mottled)

Betula-Birch (salmon-cream, papery)

Cornus-Dogwood (shrub types, red & yellow twigs)

Cytisus-Scotch Broom

Magnolia (smooth, silver to grey)

Metasequoia-Redwood

Physocarpus-Ninebark (burgundy & tan, peeling)

Stewartia (mosaic of grey, brown & cinnamon)

Silhouette - think sparkly snow covered form & habit

Acer palmatum-Japanese Maple

Chamaecyparis nootkatensis-Weeping Falsecypress

Corylus-Contorted Filbert a.k.a. Harry Lauder's Walkingstick

Fagus-Beech (weeping)

Hydrangea-all varieties (persistent flowers)

Ornamental Grasses- all varieties

Picea-Spruce (weeping)

Prunus subhirtella-Weeping Cherry

Salix-Willow (weeping)

Sedum spectabile-Upright Stonecrop

Taxodium-Bald Cypress "knees"

Topiary-any shape

Vines- all varieties on arbors, trellis, etc.