

The Brida Journal

Email: daily@brida.eu

www.brida.eu

Week 46/2021

Ask not what you can learn from others. Ask what others can learn from you.



Brida at Home

Winter
Gardening
Tips

[Right Mouse Click to Read and Listen](#)

The gardening season has come to an end. Roses, hydrangeas, and other plants are resting and recharging themselves. If you take care of your plants over the winter, you'll have beautiful blossoms, lush foliage, and a bountiful harvest the following year. Mistakes with potted plants, on the other hand, tend to happen more quickly than we would like. Unfortunately, such mistakes can be found in the garden as well. If you make these blunders in the winter, you risk causing unnecessary damage to your landscape! Here's some guidance.

Bulbs are left in the ground.

Dahlias, fuchsias, anemones, heavy lilies, and tuberous begonias are just a few examples. Unlike traditional bedding or pot plants, these lovely species require a little more attention throughout the winter. Remove the bulbs from the ground as soon as possible to ensure that your blooms bloom wonderfully the following year. They should be kept in a dark, non-humid environment. They could become mouldy if you don't take care of them. Bulb storage is best done in a basket. Make sure to end the "hibernation" in a timely manner next year. The flower bulbs can be returned to the bed or pot once the threat of frost has passed.

You leave utensils and tools lying around.

The garden and its plants aren't the only things that need to be prepared for the winter. The same can be said about commonplace objects. They are frequently overlooked. Tools, equipment, and insecticides should be moved to a well-protected spot as the cold season approaches. The latter are especially susceptible to temperature changes and can lose their effectiveness. The best location is a garden shed, cellar, or any other storage place.



You leave the leaves on the ground.

Even though the gardening season is finished, there is still plenty to do in the garden. After all, next spring should bring your green paradise back to life. You should frequently remove dead leaves from your lawn to ensure that it survives the cold season in good form. It prevents them from decaying and staining the soil. Do not, however, discard the leaves. You can use them to aid in the survival of your roses during the winter. Hedgehogs and insects, for example, are delighted by a little mound of leaves.



You forget to water your plants.

Plants like medlar hedges and cherry laurel, which are evergreen or wintergreen, lose a lot of water through their leaves. In the winter, they should be watered on a regular basis. By the way, the same principle applies to your garden's potted plants. Water the plants only on days when there isn't a chance of frost. Waterlogging can harm the roots and, in the worst-case scenario, cause the pot to burst.

You've forgotten about the water pipes.

Autumn and winter require proper protection for more than only our flowers, shrubs, and trees. Remember to check your water pipes that lead to the outside. Pipes can burst if there are significant frosts in the winter. Rain barrels and fountains are in the same boat.

**You just leave snow on the ground.**

Yes, as a result of climate change, there is less snow. However, if there is a lot of snow, you should take it down. Trees and hedges, as well as their branches, might snap if the snow weight is too heavy. For safety's sake, snow on the garden shed, greenhouse, or conservatory roof should constantly be removed.

You leave the pond in the garden to its own devices.

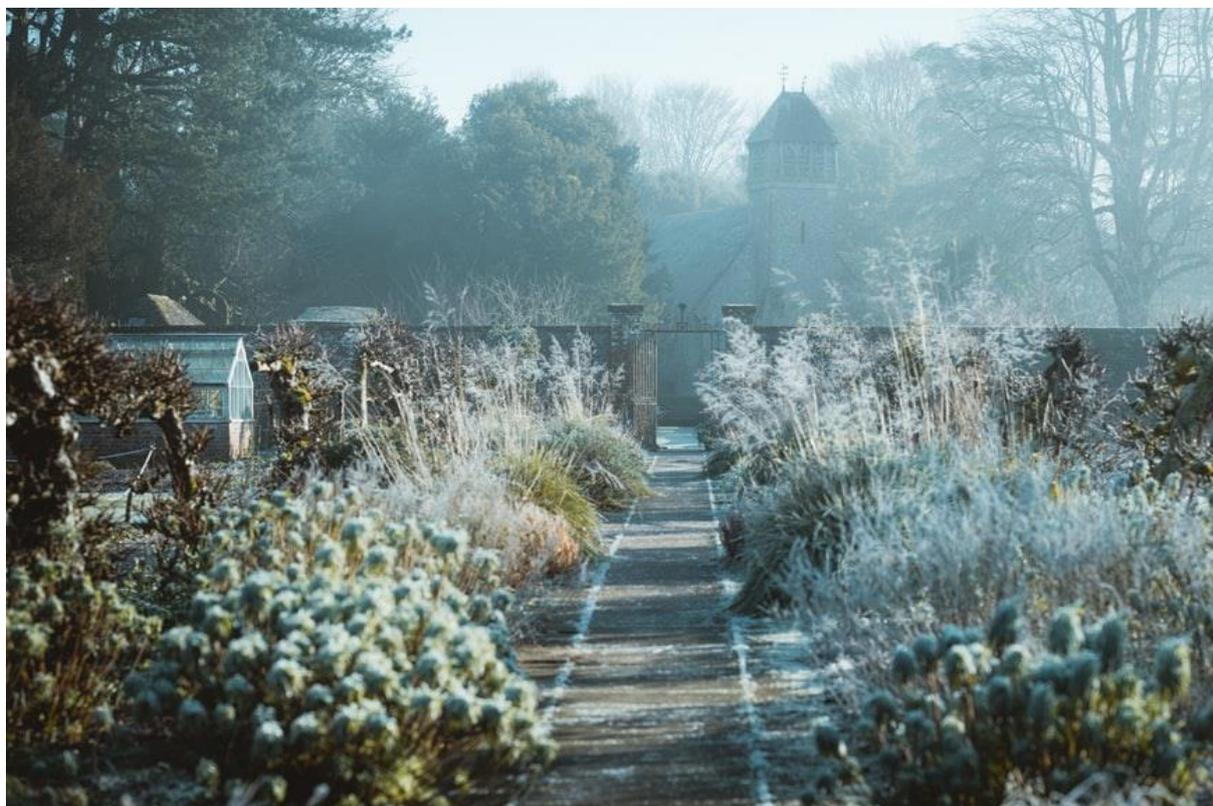
Our plants aren't the only ones who need to be winter-proofed. The same may be said for the pond in the garden. Leaves, branches, and dead plant components should all be removed on a regular basis, preferably before the first frost. Putrefactive gases will occur as organic matter decomposes if you forget to do this. Water quality deteriorates, oxygen levels drop, and species such as fish and frogs perish.

When it snows, you stroll on the lawn.

When it snows, the garden takes on a wonderful appearance. It's also tempting to be in the middle of it. If there is snow on the ground, the lawn should not be stepped on. Compacting the snow with footprints or driving over it (e.g. with a sledge or wheelbarrow) creates air pockets. What is the repercussion? The grass is ruined by so-called typhula rot.

You use salt on the roads.

Salting the roads is prohibited in some European nations. Salt is absolute poison for your garden and should be avoided at all costs, even if slippery roads and snow are a pain in everyday life. When grit and melting snow combine, the result is massive devastation to hedges, trees, and flower beds. Switch to kinder alternatives if you want to appreciate your plants for a long time.



The Worksheet - 46.21

Would you like to improve your written English? Write your answers directly in the spaces under the questions. If you would like some feedback, send your answers to frank@peters-langues.fr

Brida at Home

1. How are the winters in your region?
2. Why should you not leave bulbs in the ground?
3. What should you do with your gardening tools?
4. Who will appreciate the leaves on the ground?
5. Why is watering the plants important during winter?
6. What must you do with your water pipes?
7. What and why should you not walk in the garden when it snows?
8. What should you do if you have a pond in the garden?
9. What will happen if you put salt on the roads or on garden paths?
10. Describe your garden or balcony?

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The Brida Journal,
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by learners of English.

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Educators wishing to participate in the programme should contact me via email.

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