

December

- This is the least active month of the year for bonsai enthusiasts. You still have to check your trees for proper soil moisture. If necessary to water, do so during the warm part of the day when the soil is not frozen.
- You should make certain that all conifers and other evergreen bonsai get sufficient light so their leaves maintain a high chlorophyll level for resistance to pests and disease.
- Do NOT transplant this month.
- You can collect native plant material this month as long as the ground is not frozen. Most deciduous and evergreen trees will be dormant this month.
- Be alert to sudden weather changes. In event of severe weather be certain to give your bonsai added protection. Use additional mulch or place the bonsai in a cold-frame until the severe weather subsides.
- Cold winds cause more injury than intense cold. If cold windy days are in the forecast you can use a simple wind-beak to protect your bonsai or you can put them on the side of a structure away from the wind. You can also store your bonsai temporarily inside a garage or on a carport that does have some wind protection. If stored in a garage, remember to move your bonsai outdoors when the windy days are over. Wind protection is advised because the small branches of bonsai can be quickly dehydrated by cold winds causing them to die and spoiling the design of the bonsai. Be on the safe side, water thoroughly on warm days if necessary and provide protection against cold winds during winter.

TRANSPLANT/ROOT PRUNE:

NOTHING

BRANCH PRUNE:

Maples, Pine-white, Spruce, Sweetgum.

TRIM/PINCH NEW GROWTH:

NOTHING

FERTILIZE:

Citrus

WIRE:

Fir, Pines, Spruce.