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Environmental Stress and Winterizing Plants

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Environmental Stress and Winterizing Plants

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Extension Service

Weather Station

Observe the rock

If it's wet- it's raining

If it's moving- it's windy

If it's white- it's snowing

If you can't see it- it's foggy

Fall weather problems

- Temperature remains the least controllable of environmental factors in the landscape

Fall weather problems

- Early frost

Early Frost

- Damage
 - Leaves killed on tree
- Solution
 - Withdraw water, fertilizer in late summer

Early Frost

- Damage
 - Improper leaf abscission
- Solution
 - No control

Early Frost

- Damage
 - Tree damage
- Solution
 - No pruning on susceptible varieties in late summer

Winter Weather Problems

- Extreme cold temperatures

Extreme Cold Temperatures

- Damage
 - Frost cracks
- Solution
 - No Control

Extreme Cold Temperatures

- Damage
 - Black heart
- Solution
 - No Control

Extreme Cold Temperatures

- Damage
 - Southwest winter damage
- Solution
 - Wrap, paint, or shade tree trunks

Extreme Cold Temperatures

- Damage
 - Fruit bud kill
- Solution
 - No control
 - Species selection

Extreme Cold Temperatures

- Damage
 - Plant death
- Solution
 - No control
 - Species selection
 - Plant covers

Extreme Cold Temperatures

- Damage
 - Root damage
- Solution
 - Mulches
 - Protect containers

Spring Weather Problems

- Late frost

Late Frost

- Damage
 - Fruit bud freezing
- Solution
 - Pray and hope

Late Frost

- Damage
 - Leaf bud damage
- Solution
 - Species selection

External Winter

- Damage
 - Snow breakage and bending
- Solution
 - Proper pruning
 - Wrapping shrubs
 - Snow removal

External Winter

- Damage
 - Desiccation
- Solution
 - Fall watering
 - Winter watering
 - Antitranspirants
 - Planting locations
 - Wrapping

External Winter

- Damage
 - Salt, fertilizers, and ice melters
- Solution
 - Change chemicals
 - Tolerant plants
 - Use products correctly

Wildlife Winter

- Damage
 - Rodent girdling
- Solution
 - Cleaning
 - Baits

Wildlife Winter

- Damage
 - Porcupines stripping bark
- Solution
 - Trapping
 - Baits

Wildlife Winter

- Damage
 - Large animals grazing and rubbing
- Solution
 - Fencing
 - Repellents
 - Plant varieties