

Village Garden Center

& Landscape Service

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Celebrate Arbor Day

By Eva Soud



Plant A Tree

Arbor Day was founded in 1872 by Julius Sterling Morton in Nebraska City, Nebraska. By the 1920s, each state in the United States had passed public laws that stipulated a certain day to be Arbor Day or Arbor and Bird Day observance.

National Arbor Day is celebrated every year on the last Friday in April. Each state celebrates its own state holiday. The customary observance is to plant a tree. On the first Arbor Day, April 10, 1872, an estimated one million trees were planted.

Birdsey Northrop of Connecticut was responsible for globalizing it when he visited Japan in 1883 and delivered his Arbor Day and Village Improvement message. In that same year, the American Forestry Association made Northrop the Chairman of the committee to campaign for Arbor Day

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nationwide. He also brought his enthusiasm for Arbor Day to Australia, Canada, and Europe

America has a national tree, and it's all thanks to Arbor Day. In 2004, the National Arbor Day Foundation hosted a vote on its website for a national tree. The winner pulled ahead early and never flagged: The oak tree. In December 2004, Congress passed legislation designating the oak as America's national tree, touting its infamous strength. The oak won 101,000 votes in the National Arbor Foundation contest. The redwood came in second place with 81,000 votes. Dogwood, maple and pine rounded out the top five contenders.

Cercis canadensis

Cercis canadensis is a large deciduous shrub or small tree, native to eastern North America from Southern Ontario, Canada south to northern Florida but can thrive as far west as California.

Cercis Canadensis 'Alley Cat' Alley Cat Redbud

Deep pink blooms cover each stem in early spring, before the leaves emerge. New, heart-shaped leaves are light green with splashes of white variegation and hints of coppery-pink. Foliage matures to medium green with white in summer. Maintains excellent variegation with out reversion.



Cercis canadensis The Rising Sun

This small Redbud is perfect for neighborhood gardens and offers a gorgeous array of color through three seasons. The heart shaped foliage of The Rising Sun™ appears in summer with bright gold and apricot colors. In early spring, just before the colorful display of foliage, The Rising Sun™ offers precious, lavender blooms that attract butterflies and bees. In the fall, you can enjoy the deep golds and autumn red. For all seasons, choose The Rising Sun.



Uses for Redbud

The flowers of the redbud can be added to salads. They can also be fried for eating. The flowers are favored by honey bees. The seeds of the redbud are known to be eaten by squirrels, deer and several types of birds, including cardinals and pheasants. The bark has been used to make astringent suitable for use in treating dysentery. The wood of the redbud is quite hard, but its limited size and somewhat gnarly growth patterns make unusable commercially for anything other than landscaping purposes.

Ceris canadensis 'Vanilla Twist'

The first weeping white-flowered redbud! Nurseryman Tim Brotzman crossed his weeping Lavender Twist® 'Covey' with the very cold hardy 'Royal White' and created this exciting small tree. Slightly more upright-growing than Lavender Twist, but the branches cascade downwards beautifully. Introduced in 2013. Plants are 15-18" high and wide, but near 2 feet if the droopy branches are spread.



Pink Heartbreaker' Weeping Redbud

Cercis canadensis "Pink Heartbreaker"

'Pink Heartbreaker' is a beautiful specimen weeper with a strong central leader and nicely tiered branching. This tree likes full sun to light shade for the best performance

Oklahoma Redbud

Cercis canadensis var. texensis 'Oklahoma'

Beautiful garden tree valued for its timing; petite purple-red flowers on bare branches bridge the gap between winter and spring! New foliage has soft-pink tint, maturing to rich green. Deciduous.



Redbuds were first cultivated in 1641 and even George Washington planted some around Mt. Vernon. The name *Cercis canadensis*, as usual, has Greek and Latin origins. *Cercis* is from the Greek *kerkis*, which means "a weaver's shuttle" and refers to the shape of the pod; *canadensis* means "of Canada."

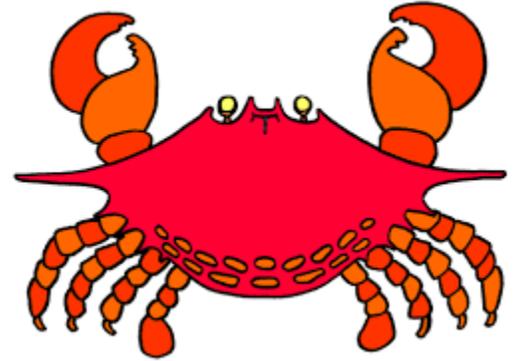


From the garden of Eva

Ingredients: For the Dip:

Crab Dip

- 2 teaspoons olive oil
- 1 small red bell pepper, finely chopped
- 1 small yellow onion, finely chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 16 ounces lump crab meat (drained, if canned)
- 8 ounces cream cheese, at room temperature
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 4 ounces Monterey Jack cheese, shredded (1 cup shredded)
- ¼ cup Parmesan cheese
- 3 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons minced fresh parsley
- 1½ teaspoons Old Bay seasoning
- 1 teaspoon hot sauce



For the Topping:

- ½ cup Panko bread crumbs
- 1 tablespoon Parmesan cheese
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. Grease a 1½-quart casserole dish; set aside.
2. Heat the olive oil over medium-high heat in a large skillet. Add the red pepper and onion and cook until softened and all moisture has evaporated, about 5 minutes. Add the garlic and cook for an additional 30 seconds to 1 minute, or until fragrant. Remove the mixture to a large bowl and allow to cool.
3. Add the rest of the dip ingredients to the bowl with the pepper mixture and gently stir together until combined, being careful not to smash the crab meat too much. Transfer the mixture to the prepared casserole dish.
4. With a fork, toss together the bread crumbs, Parmesan and melted butter and sprinkle evenly over the top of the dip.
5. Bake for 20 minutes, or until golden brown and bubbly. Allow to rest for 10 minutes before serving. Serve with baguette slices or your favorite tortilla or pita chips. Refrigerate any leftovers in an airtight container for up to 2 days.

Chocolate Cakes With Liquid Centers

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup butter
- 4 squares bittersweet chocolate
(1 ounce each)
- 2 eggs
- 2 egg yolks
- 1/4 cup white sugar
- 2 teaspoons all purpose flour



Nothing says 'I love you' like this rich chocolate delight.

How to

1. Preheat oven to 450°F; butter and flour four 4-ounce ramekins.
2. In top half of double boiler set over simmering water, heat butter and chocolate until chocolate is almost melted.
3. Beat eggs, yolks and sugar until light colored and thick.
4. Mix chocolate and butter, and slowly pour into egg mixture, stirring constantly. Stir in flour until just combined.
5. Pour batter into molds and bake for 6 to 7 minutes. Cake centers will be quite soft. Invert molds on plates. Let sit 15 seconds. Un mold. Serve immediately with whipped cream.



Happy Valentines Day

Birth Trees

February 1 - Feb 8th

Poplar tree signifies fortification, valour and consistency. You are brave and can stand up to anything. You are also very creative and spent your time in artistic pursuits. You are not a blind follower of fashion but are always well dressed with comfort being the priority. You are mostly successful in everything you do and face everything head on.

(Poplar tree leaves)



February 9 -Feb 18

Cedar tree signifies health, confidence and beauty. You are multi-talented and can impress just about anyone. Your body is as beautiful as your mind. Honesty and faith becomes you and you cannot lie even when your life is at stake. You love the good life and strive hard to get there.



(Red Cedar)



(White Cedar)

February 19 - Feb 28

Pine tree signifies vivacity, inventiveness and life. You are passionate, but are very susceptible to distractions. This makes you not able to finish things at times. You are always trying to improve your life and can come up with many ways to keep you and others interested. You like sharing whatever you have with others and get along fabulously with like-minded people.

(Pine)



What Flowering Trees and Shrubs are Good Candidates for Forcing?

There are many spring flowering plants that will easily blossom indoors and you can experiment with whatever you have growing in your yard. Some traditional trees and shrubs to try include: azalea, beautybush, crab apple, flowering quince, forsythia, magnolia, pussy willow, redbud, rhododendron, serviceberry, spirea, witch hazel, and fruit trees such as cherries, pears and apples.

When to Cut Your Branches

Many spring flowering trees and shrubs require a period of cold dormancy in order to bloom. By mid-January, most spring bloomers have had sufficient cold to allow forcing them into bloom indoors.

There are a few, such as crab apples, beautybush, magnolias, redbuds and spireas, that require a longer dormancy and do better if you wait until late-February / early-March. It's best to cut your branches on a relatively warm day. If that's not possible and the branches are frozen when you cut them, it helps to submerge the entire branch in slightly warm water for a few hours.

What to Cut

Look for swollen, plump buds. There will be both flower and leaf buds on the stems, but flower buds tend to be rounder and larger than leaf buds. Cut your branches at an angle and be sure your cut them long enough to display.



Rose wreath

Supplies:

12 inch foam wreath

Cardstock – I used 8.5 x 11

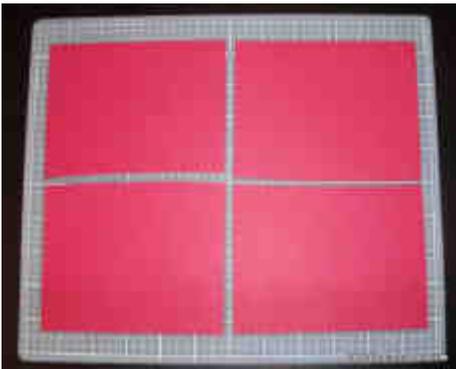
scissors

hot glue gun

spray adhesive

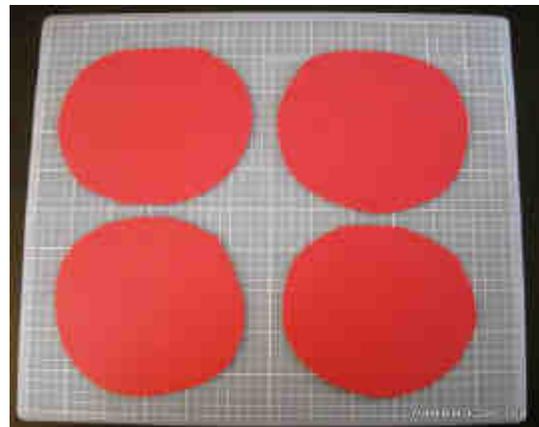
glitter – I like Martha Stewart's crystal fine glitter

1 1/2 yards sheer ribbon

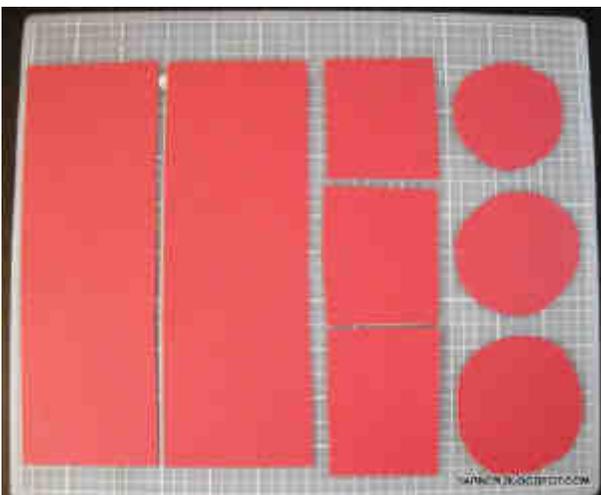


1. I made two different sized circles.

For the large circles, cut the cardstock into four pieces.



2. Cut each square into a circle. Doesn't have to be perfect. Mine were ovalish, they both work.



3. For the smaller circles, cut your cardstock into strips about 3 inches wide. Then cut each strip into three squares. Cut each square into a circle.



4. Cut each circle into a spiral, trying to keep the thickness even throughout. Mine definitely were not even, but it is helpful.



5. Once all the spirals are cut, start rolling the flower starting with the outside. Roll as tight as possible keeping the bottom edge aligned at all times.

6. When it is completely rolled, pinch the flower together a little bit to help it hold its shape
7. When you let go of your flower, it will spring open into shape.



8. Put a group of your flowers together on a sheet of newspaper and spray lightly with the spray adhesive. Then sprinkle your glitter on top. Let dry at least 1/2 hour.

9. Hot glue the flower together by placing a little bit of glue on the bottom flap and then hold the flower in the shape you want while the glue dries. I found that if I left the individual flowers unglued, they would start to unwind and lose some of their shape after a few days.

10. Start gluing the large and small flowers on your foam wreath so that they are touching and \ showing as little of the foam as possible. You will probably have some little bits of the foam peeking through where you couldn't fit even the little flowers. Continue with all your flowers and come back to that at the end. Once all the flowers are in place you can go back and cover some of the areas where a lot of the foam is showing. I took a left over glittered flower, pulled out a little bit of the middle, and tore it off from the rest of the paper.

11. I curled it as tight as I could and stuck it into the little holes in my wreath. If I needed more, I kept taking little bits from the left over flowers and wound them into little pieces.

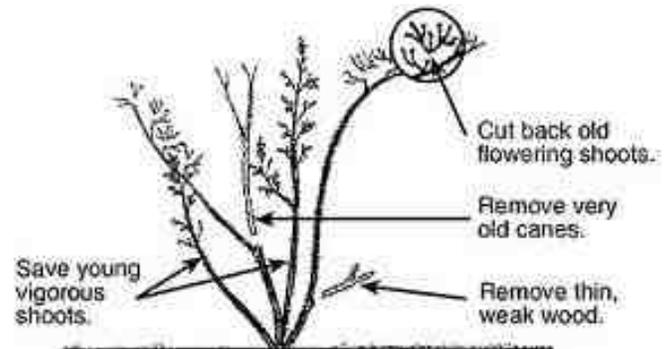
12. I bought one and a half yards of sheer ribbon and wrapped it through the wreath and tied a bow at the top.

What to Prune in Winter

Pruning in winter—during the dormant season—invigorates many trees and shrubs because it leaves the plants with extra root and energy reserves that will support new growth on the remaining branches. Dormant-season pruning is good for you, too, because you can see the branches more clearly without leaves in the way. And it gives you a reason to go outside on mild winter days. Here is a partial list of shrubs and trees you can prune from winter until the long days of spring start sap flowing again. You'll also find here a short list of trees not to prune during winter.

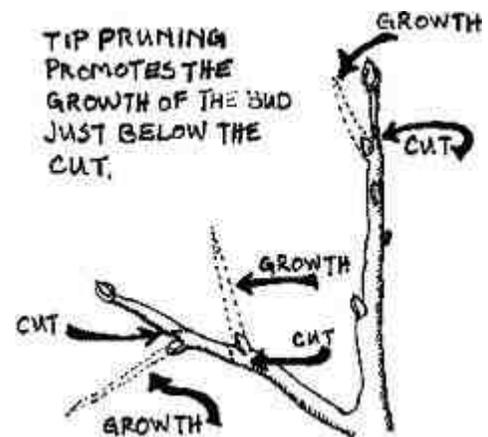
Shrubs

- Barberries
- Glossy abelia
- Beauty berries
- Camellias (after they finish blooming)
- European hornbeam
- Euonymous
- Mallow
- Hydrangeas



Trees

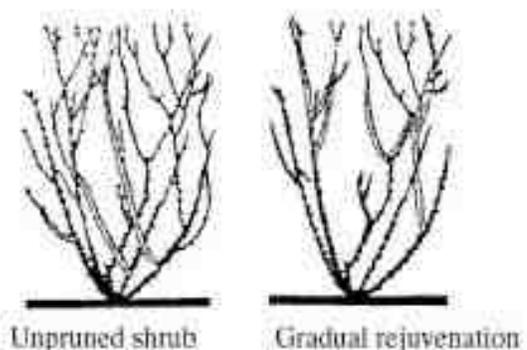
- Bradford and Callory pears
- Crabapples
- Poplar
- Spruce
- Junipers
- Sumacs
- Bald cypress
- Cherries
- Plums
- Honey locust



Don't Prune During Winter

Some trees "bleed" or ooze sap when pruned in late winter or early spring. While oozing sap is not dangerous to the tree, it can make a sticky, dirty mess, especially on parked cars. Prune these trees in summer or fall:

- Maples
- Birches
- Dogwoods
- Walnuts
- Elms



**Time to spray
Your Fruit trees!**



All Seasons Horticultural Spray Oil

For Organic Gardening. A superior type paraffinic oil that may be used as a growing season spray, dormant spray (no leaves) or delayed dormant (green tip) spray to control overwintering eggs of red spiders, scale insects, aphids, bud moths, leaf roller, red bug, codling moth, blister mites, galls, whitefly, mealy bugs and other insects and diseases. Highly recommended for use on fruit trees, shade trees, shrubs, ornamentals, roses and vegetables. Safe and pleasant to use.

Horticultural Oil Controls Insect Pests Organically in Any Season

- Can be used in any season
- Controls many insect pests
- Safe for people, pets and beneficial insects
- Can be used indoors on most types of houseplants

Unlike heavy "dormant" spray oils that can only be used in early spring, this lightweight oil can be used year-round on vegetables and ornamental plants to control many insect pests, including aphids, mealybugs, red spider mites and scale. Dilute oil according to label directions, then spray plants thoroughly, including the undersides of the leaves — horticultural oils kill insect pests by smothering them so complete coverage is essential. 32 oz. concentrate makes up to 12-1/2 gallons of spray.



Seeds are in!



It's time to start planting.....