



# 12 Months of Gardening

## January

- Try forcing amaryllis indoors. With many colours to choose from, brighten up those blah winter days.
- Due to low light levels at this time of year, cleaning the foliage of indoor plants will allow more light to penetrate into the leaf.
- Inspect indoor plants for white flies, spider mites and aphids.
- Visit us to purchase your seeds. You may also need propagation trays, soil, heating mats and lights.
- Start seeding slow germinating seeds like begonias and geraniums and early flowering annuals such as pansies, petunias, verbenas, dianthus and snapdragons.
- Check on bulbs in storage. Bulbs should be stored in moist peat moss or vermiculite.
- Dust bulbs with garden sulfur and diatomaceous earth. Discard any bulbs that may be damaged.
- Keep the birds attracted to your garden by topping up your bird feeders regularly.
- Did you know that snow is one of your gardens best friends? Snow insulates and protects all that it covers. Are your early flowering shrubs being snowbound? Relocation to a snow free area may be advisable.
- Look around your existing garden to see if delicate plants require additional protection by planting a hedge or tree.
- During winter thaws, water the ground around trees and shrubs as long as there is not any snow around the plants.
- Gently brush snow off of evergreen branches such as Cedars. The weight can damage bendable branches. If using de-icers on your entrance way, be sure to use a lawn and plant friendly brand, such as Cliff Ultra Melt.