


Easy Tree Care Guide for Deciduous Garden Trees



SEASON	TASKS	YOUR NOTES
Winter: Prune Fertilize Fruit Trees	<p>In winter, deciduous fruit & ornamental trees require little care because they go dormant. Water only if winter rainfall is low, and then only about once per month. Pruning is done to control the size, and to improve the structure by removing dead, damaged or crossing branches, and twiggy growth. For fruit trees, be sure to check that particular species before you prune so you don't remove fruiting wood.</p>	<p>HERE'S THE SHORT VERSION:</p> <p>1. Water Weekly and adjust as needed to more frequent or less. Always soak deeply - "less water" means less frequent. Get this part right and your tree will be happy. Feel into the soil of the root ball - if the top 2" are dry, water it.</p> <p>2. Fertilize Feb, May, August</p> <p>3. Prune, check for pests, add worm castings occasionally</p>
Spring: Water Fertilize Fruit Trees	<p><u>When new leaves emerge</u> in early spring it is time to start watering if rains are not sufficient. Adjust water to the amount and fullness of the leaves - as the leaves grow big and the weather warms, the tree will need more frequent watering. Check the root ball soil with your finger - water deeply when top 2" feels dry.</p> <p>Fertilize fruit trees in February, May and August per package directions.</p>	
Summer: Water, Fertilize Fruit Trees Harvest Fruit	<p>Continue to provide regular water - deep watering 1x per week works in many coastal areas, inland areas may be every 3-4 days. Should Santa Ana conditions occur, be sure to soak the tree ahead of time so it can withstand the dehydrating winds. Deep and slow watering is best - Always aim to soak the soil to a 12-18" depth.</p>	
Autumn:	<p>Water less frequently (but still saturate deeply) as weather cools and leaves drop. <u>Stop watering once leaves are mostly gone & rains become regular. If there is little rain, supplement with a good soak each month.</u></p>	
More Resources	<p>Dave Wilson Nursery</p> <p>Excellent videos and more from California's top grower of bare root fruit and ornamental trees</p>	<p>www.DaveWilson.com</p>
	<p>UC Davis & UC Master Gardener info</p>	<p>www.homeorchard.ucdavis.edu</p>
IMPORTANT NOTE	<p>Most tree care advice is intended for established trees and may not be appropriate for newly planted and young trees. If you are not sure, please give us a call.</p>	<p>www.TheWishingTreeCompany.com</p> <p>760.753.1760</p>