

RUTGERS

New Jersey Agricultural
Experiment Station
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
CUMBERLAND COUNTY

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What's Growing On?

VOLUME 27 ISSUE 2 2024 EDITION

Connect with us!

On The Web

- <https://cumberland.njaes.rutgers.edu/ag/>

Radio - 99.9

Rutgers Cooperative Extension
of Cumberland County
291 Morton Ave.
Millville, NJ 08332

856.451.2800 x4

[Kaylynnhy@
cumberlandcountynj.gov](mailto:Kaylynnhy@cumberlandcountynj.gov)

To Do List:

- Remove any diseased plants or leaves to prevent pathogens from overwintering.
- Consider planting a cover crop in your vegetable garden.
- Plant bare-root plants when they're dormant and the air temperature is cool.
- Don't overwater your houseplant.
- Collect and save seeds for the spring.
- Plant spring flowering bulbs when the soil temperature falls below 60°F.
- Plant garlic now for a harvest in the summer.
- Add leaf mulch, straw, or compost to your garden to protect and fertilize the soil.
- Cut back your perennials.

SERVICES PROVIDED AT RCE

Soil Testing: Soil tests can be purchased for \$20 at the RCE offices. Tests will be sent to the soil testing laboratory in New Brunswick. Test reports will give you pH, macronutrients, micronutrients, and recommendations for fertilizer.

pH testing: pH testing is done in house for \$3 with immediate results.

Plant and disease identification: The Master Gardener's Helpline works hard to properly identify plant species and associated diseases with the help of the agriculture agents in our office.

Lawn and Garden Advice: The Master Gardener's Helpline work to promote the best practices in horticulture, such as soil and water management, pest and disease control, and plant selection. They advise local growers, gardeners, and landscapers on horticultural topics such as planting, pruning, fertilizing, and harvesting.

Insect Identification: The Master Gardener's Helpline use their knowledge and resources to identify insects and come up with potential control options when necessary.

Workshops and Training: RCE hosts monthly speaker events and educational programs in addition to the 16 week Master Gardeners training course. Topics include but are not limited to soil conservation, pest identification, botony, plant pathology, and more.

Rutgers Master Gardener Program: Rutgers Master Gardeners are trained volunteers who assist Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station (NJAES) Cooperative Extension in its mission to deliver horticulture programs and information to the general public. Training to become a Master Gardener includes a 16 week course of intensive study of botany, entomology, plant diseases, landscaping, and environmentally sound methods of horticulture followed by 60 volunteer and continuing education hours.

Visit Our Website: <https://cumberland.njaes.rutgers.edu/garden/>

NATIVE ALTERNATIVES TO INVASIVE SPECIES



Inkberry Holly (*Ilex glabra*)

Bloom Time: Spring

Soil Type: Acid, moist to average

Preferred light conditions: Full sun to part shade
Height: 4–8 ft.

Additional: Evergreen. Good for foundations and hedges. Deer resistant.



Blackhaw Viburnum (*Viburnum Prunifolium*)

Bloom Time: Spring

Soil Type: Dry

Preferred light conditions: Full sun to part shade
Height: 12–15 ft.

Additional: Large white blooms. Good for hedges.



Chestnut Oak (*Quercus Montana*)

Bloom Time: Spring

Soil Type: Dry to average

Preferred light conditions: Full sun to part shade
Height: 60–70 ft.

Additional: Drought tolerant. Wildlife friendly. Good shade tree and street tree.



Red Chokeberry (*Photinia Pyrifolia*, formerly *Aronia arbutifolia*)

Bloom Time: Spring

Soil Type: Dry to moist

Preferred light conditions: Full sun to part shade
Height: 6–8 ft.

Additional: Large shrub. White/ pink blooms. Red fall color. Deer resistant.

Additional: Large shrub. White/ pink blooms. Red fall color. Deer resistant.

For more native options visit:

<https://njaes.rutgers.edu/fs1353/>

Bakacs, M., & Errickson, W. (2023, August). Invasive plants and native alternatives for landscapes. FS1353: Invasive Plants and Native Alternatives for Landscapes (Rutgers NJAES). <https://njaes.rutgers.edu/fs1353/>

COOL SEASON COVER CROPS

Cover crops protect and preserve your soil and are essential to improving soil health after annual crop harvest.

There are many options for planting cover crops in the fall & winter including:

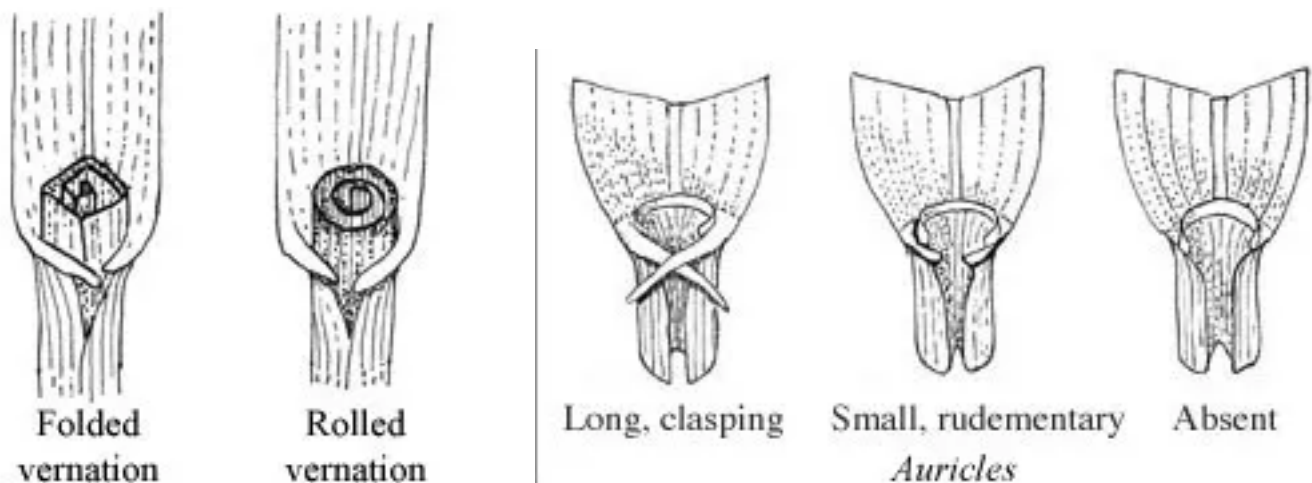
- Spring Oats
- Annual Ryegrass
- Crimson Clover
- Winter Rye
- Winter Wheat
- Winter Barley
- Turnip
- Forage Radish

Benefits of cover crops:

- Provide Diversity in the Landscape
- Prevent Soil Erosion and Runoff
- Increase Infiltration
- Improve Organic Matter Content
- Recycle Nutrients

Identifying Cool Season Turf Grass:

Vernation is a term used to describe how the youngest grass leaves are arranged in the shoot (inside of the leaf sheath between the collar region and the crown). None of the cool-season turfgrasses have ligules that appear as a fringe of hairs, but this feature is common on many weed grasses and most warm-season turfgrasses. Auricles are slender extensions of the collar and are located at the junction of the leaf blade and leaf sheath.



DEALING WITH DROUGHT

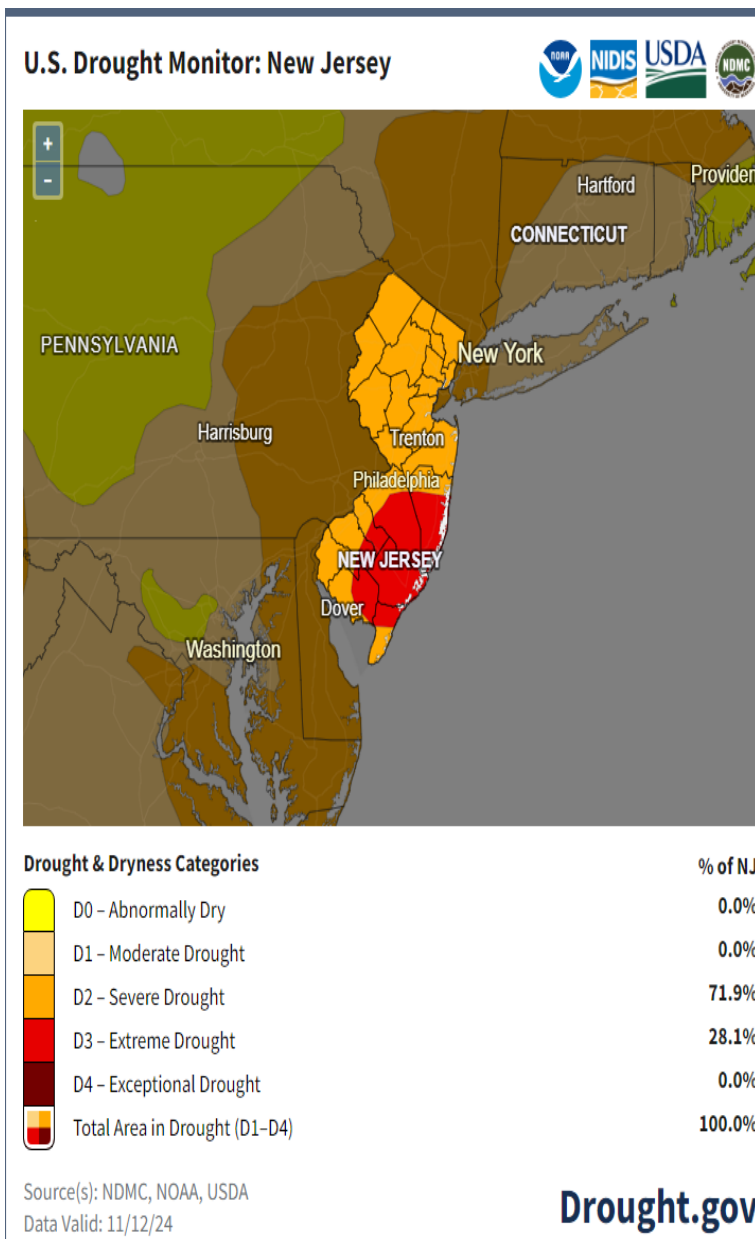
Drought has a major impact on all plants, from annual flowers and turfgrass to trees and shrubs, woody plants can experience those impacts for years in the form of susceptibility to disease and insect damage.

Water is the currency of life for all plants. It is a major component of plant cells and is required for photosynthesis. Minerals dissolved in soil water are the way plants obtain their nutrients. Without sufficient water, nutrients cannot be transported throughout the canopy of a tree. Finally, much of the way that water moves through a tree is the process of transpiration, which is the evaporation of water through the stomates in the leaves. When drought occurs, a tree reacts to close those stomates to preserve water. Therefore, water movement slows or halts altogether.

When stomates are closed, photosynthesis is reduced because no carbon dioxide – vital for photosynthesis – can enter the leaf. The resulting reduction in carbohydrate production interferes with synthesizing plant growth regulators and secondary metabolites essential for plant defenses, such as tannins, oleoresins, and alkaloids.

In the years after a drought event, trees and shrubs may be more susceptible to diseases such as Armillaria root rot, verticillium wilt, botryosphaeria canker, cytospora canker, and Nectria canker. Drought-stressed conifers are more likely to be troubled by needlecast diseases like Rhizosphaera.

Feather, S. (2024, August). The long term impact of drought on trees and shrubs. Penn State Extension. <https://extension.psu.edu/the-long-term-impact-of-drought-on-trees-and-shrubs>.



The image above from: <https://www.drought.gov/states/new-jersey> depicts the drought conditions of New Jersey in November of 2024.

FACT SHEETS

Rutgers Cooperative Extensions Fact Sheets:

Fact Sheet #	Fact Sheet Name :
FS584	Seeding Your Lawn
FS1313	Assessing and Addressing Soil Compaction in Your Yard
FS025	Mole Management in Turf and Gardens
FS839	How to Calculate Fertilizer for Your Lawn
FS563	Fertilizing Your Home Lawn
E348	Starting a School Garden
E310	Diagnosing Cucurbit Diseases in the Home Garden
FS805	Vermicomposting
FS1156	Keeping Geraniums Over Winter
FS692	Horticulture Therapy
FS626	Fertilizing the Home Vegetable Garden
FS102	Your Lawn and its Care
FS011	Blossom-End Rot: Tomatoes, Peppers, Eggplants
FS374	Jersey Fresh Tomatoes! The Mystery of Their Great Taste
FS358	Important Diseases of Tomatoes Grown in High Tunnel in New Jersey
FS1102	The Stake and Weave Training System for Tomatoes
FS797	Soil Testing for Home Lawns and Gardens
FS814	Managing Diseases of Landscape Turf
FS871	Understanding the Fertilizer Labels

Call 856-451-2800 Ext. 4 when calling to request a fact sheet. All fact sheets are free unless otherwise noted.



RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
Cooperative Extension
of Cumberland County
 New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station



The Rutgers Master Gardeners of Cumberland County

invite you to join them on

Monday, December 16, 2024

for a daytime trip to

Winterthur

a mansion & museum located on a 1000-acre estate in Delaware

- Enjoy Christmas displays
- A self-guided mansion tour
- Extensive museum collections of arts, crafts and Americana
- Thirty-minute narrated tram ride through the grounds (weather permitting)
- Walking trails through meadows, woods and sixty acres of garden

**The trip will depart from the rear parking lot
 of the Ramada Inn in Vineland
 at 9 a.m. and return by 4 p.m**

Cost per person is \$55.00

Checks should be made payable to “*County of Cumberland*”
 and mailed or delivered to Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE),
 291 Morton Avenue, Millville, NJ 08332

Please call 609-805-5206 for more information and to register.





Just in Time for the Holidays!

“Make & Take” Wreath-Making Workshop

Date: Thursday, December 5th, 2024

Rutgers Master Gardeners of Cumberland County annual fresh wreath making workshop.
Learn how to make and decorate a wreath with natural plant materials for the holidays!

Light refreshment will be served, and a festive holiday spirit for all!

Two classes will be offered; 10:00 AM and 5:30 PM

Cost: is \$30.00 non-refundable, pre-paid registration is required.



Where: Extension Education Center, 291 Morton Avenue, Millville 08332

When: Thurs., 12/5/2022 at 10:00 am and /or 5:30 pm

Please Bring:

Wire cutters, gloves, clippers and any additional items you would need for your wreath!

Information: Pre-registration is necessary for this event as **class size** is limited!

Please call Rutgers Cooperative Extension at 856-451-2800, Ext #4 Kaylyn Hyson

WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

DECEMBER 7TH
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

PLEASE TURN IN THE ATTACHED FORM
WITH YOUR PAYMENT TO PARTICIPATE!



RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
Cooperative Extension
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station



 **Cumberland Mall**

WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

DECEMBER 7TH
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM



Thank you for your interest in our workshop! To reserve your spot, please complete the information below and submit a \$30 payment by check.

Full Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Payment Information + Submission Instructions:

- Amount: \$30 per person
- Make Check Payable To: County of Cumberland

Payment Submission Instructions:

- Deliver this completed form along with your check to the Cumberland Mall Management Office.
- All forms and payments must be received by December 2, 2024, before 12:00 PM.

Additional Instructions:

Please bring wire cutters, gloves, clippers, and any additional items you may need for the preparation of your wreath.

I understand that my reservation is not complete until both this form and the payment are received by the deadline.

Signature

Date

Thank you for registering! If you have any questions, please contact us at info@cumberlandmallnj.com or give us a call at 856-315-6590.

Prepared by Kaylynn Hyson , Home Horticulture Educator & Master Gardener Coordinator

Scan these QR codes using a smartphone camera to view online.



Rutgers Cooperative
Extentsion of Cumberland
County



The Master Gardener's
Facebook Page

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Pesticide User Responsibility: Use pesticides safely and follow instructions on labels. The user is responsible for the proper use of pesticides, residues on crops, storage and disposal, as well as damages caused by drift.
Use of Trade Names: Trade names are used in this publication with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement is implied. In some instances the compound may be sold under different trade names, which may vary as to label.



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Extension Education Center
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