



University of Nevada
Cooperative Extension

January 2016

Community Connection

FREEZING TEMPS

When many people hear the term “desert”, their mental image is one of an intensely hot and dry area. The dramatically cold temperatures that recently seized Southern Nevada demonstrated otherwise. When an area is called a desert, you can only be certain that the environment is dry, but it is not necessarily hot. Antarctica, for instance, is one of the driest climates on earth, and indeed it is technically the largest desert on the planet. Southern Nevada might have felt like an ice box, but it could not compare with that!

For some landscape plants, the temperatures might as well have been arctic. Because freezing temperatures are relatively uncommon here in the Las Vegas valley and its environs, it can be tempting to risk using plants that are not well suited for the weather extremes here. The most tender plants, both edible and ornamental, can develop something called “chilling injury” at temperatures lower than 40°F. These are ill-suited to this area, and would be better in regions further south, like the Sonora Desert of southern Arizona. They can be found in a number of landscapes, but would be better off planted elsewhere. Read [more!](#)

HOLIDAY TREE RECYCLING-A GIFT TO OUR COMMUNITY

Holiday trees are one of the most recognized traditions of the holiday season. They make our homes smell lovely, we can decorate them and they provide a beautiful focal point for gifts. But what happens after the holiday season? Most people simply throw their holiday tree away, yet when they are chipped into mulch, they become a valuable resource. This mulch is used in public gardens and parks across the valley to help conserve soil moisture and keep plants healthy. Recycling your holiday tree is a gift that will keep on giving back to the community.



For 12 years, Cooperative Extension has been involved with the Southern Nevada Christmas Tree Recycling Committee. The committee, consisting of local government agencies, volunteers and business entities, is asking southern Nevadans to give their community a gift and recycle their holiday tree this year. Read [more!](#)



ON BACK

It's time for a change
Rose Society meeting

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Who we are: We are the outreach college of the University of Nevada, Reno. We design and deliver community programs to residents of Nevada with other agencies and volunteers.

What we do: We learn about the needs of our community and develop programs to meet them. We teach classes, hold workshops, sponsor seminars related to those needs and provide online information.

What we offer: Education, training and instruction in: Health & Nutrition; Children, Youth & Families; and Water, Horticulture, Economics & Environment.

Hope you enjoy this shorter newsletter format!

**Cooperative Extension
Southern Area office locations
and phone numbers:**

Clark 702-222-3130

8050 Paradise Road
Las Vegas, 89123

Northeast Clark 702-397-2604

1897 N. Moapa Valley Blvd.
P.O. Box 126,

Logandale, 89021

Southern Clark 702-299-1333

55 Civic Way

Laughlin, 89029

Southern Nye 775-7274-5532

1651 E. Calvada Blvd

Pahrump, 89048

**Northern Nye/Esmeralda
775-482-6794**

P.O. Box 231

#1 Frankie St., Old Courthouse

Tonopah, 89049

Lincoln 775-726-3109

P.O. Box 728

360 Lincoln St.

Caliente, 89008

Eureka 775-237-5326

P.O. Box 613

701 S. Main St.

Eureka, 89316

White Pine 775-293-6599

950 Campton St.

Ely, 89301

Cooperative Extension's mission:

Discover: by assessing community needs; understanding emerging issues; *Develop:* science-based programs to help resolve the needs of community residents; *Disseminate:* through evidence-based educational programs; classes and publications; *Preserve:* by publishing findings via curriculum and fact sheets and demonstrate knowledge to strengthen the social, economic and environmental well-being of people.

IT'S A NEW YEAR—TIME FOR CHANGE

Each New Year many of us begin with New Year's Resolutions. We promise ourselves that we will change some behavior that we consider unhealthy or unbecoming. We may choose to just live more healthfully, or we may be more specific, wanting to lose weight, stop smoking, or start exercising more. Any of these intentions are admirable, but each one deserves some

thought and preparation before beginning. Lifestyle and attitude change isn't easy, but with some planning you can be very successful. The following tips may help you succeed with your resolutions where others have failed. Read [more!](#)



Never to late to change a bad habit!

WINTER SAFETY FOR OLDER ADULTS



The winter season brings holidays and good cheer along with cooler days and cozy nights by the fire. On the other hand, it may also bring short-term illness, isolation at home and even holiday weight gain. Follow these prevention steps so Jack Frost doesn't nip at your nose! Read [more!](#)

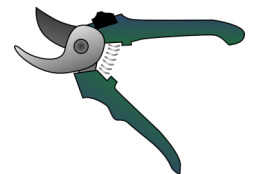
FREE RADON TEST KITS



Free, easy-to-use radon test kits are available Dec. 1 through Feb. 29 at all Cooperative Extension offices and partner locations statewide. Radon, a naturally occurring radioactive gas, comes from the ground and can enter homes and accumulate to elevated concentrations. At elevated concentrations, the odorless, colorless gas can raise the risk of lung cancer for unsuspecting homeowners. Read [more!](#)

TWO PRUNING CLASSES IN JAN.

Gardening in Small Places: pruning workshop is scheduled for Saturday, January 23 from 8 a.m. to noon. The class, taught by Dr. Angela O'Callaghan, is designed to show you the what, when, where, why and how of pruning your landscape to keep your plants healthy and looking like you want them to. Read [more!](#)



Cooperative Extension and the South Valley Rose Society are collaborating and offering educational meetings throughout the winter/spring. Free and open to the public, the January 28 meeting topic is *Pruning Roses*.

Steve Schneider, Consulting Rosarian, will lead the demonstration on the proper pruning of roses. The class will be broken into small groups and consulting rosarians will prune and explain the nuances of the different varieties: hybrid teas, floribundas, shrubs, miniatures and climbers. Please bring you gloves and pruners. Read [more!](#)