

Several folks have asked recently how this warm winter has affected landscapes and what they should be doing now. Be sure to accomplish the following within the next couple of weeks:

1. DO NOT top or cut back any crape myrtle (EVER!) Only lift canopies and thin/shape minimally.
2. Cut back ornamental grasses (Pampassgrass is an exception) back to the short biscuit look.
3. Complete any tree transplanting very soon.
4. Autumn weeds never left, winter weeds arrived and spring weeds are here. Treat them all appropriately (e.g. kill them!)
5. Sadly, continue irrigating your landscapes. One full irrigation cycle per week is enough for established landscapes. Winter color and rye will require more.
6. Cut back Autumn Sage (*Salvia greggii*) by 1/2. Be brutal!
7. If your Texas Sage (*Leucophyllum*) is looking thin (most are), consider brutally cutting back to encourage thicker new growth. Most can be pruned back by 1/2.
8. Time to prune bush roses (cut back by 1/2).
9. All dormant perennials should have been cut back by now.
10. Consider cutting asiatic jasmine back by 1/2 if it has grown taller 6-9" in height.
11. Do NOT prune any spring flowering shrubs such as yellow Jasmine, Azaleas, Hawthornes, etc.