HOLIDAY DECORATING
& The Winter Landscape

By Kristin Hain

LAND ESCAPES INC.
"Escape to your own backyard!"
Beautiful holiday décor doesn’t need to come from a “box store”…

The holidays have become too commercial and less classy and natural.
When creating natural décor...

- Blinking, flashing lights
- Inflatable decorations
- Foam based branches & berries
- Pink Poodles???
- Cost $$$
Get back to nature....

Great natural décor found in the winter landscape...

- Freshly cut evergreen branches
- Berries from trees & shrubs
- Branches from trees with unique form or texture
- Feathers
- Dried flower heads or seed pods
Look around and you’ll find beautiful items to decorate with from your own landscape!
Things to keep in mind...

Inside...
Use pinecones, acorns, branches, grapevine, feathers, seed pods, etc.

*NOTE:* Fresh greenery will dry out quickly. Berries & greenery may be poisonous to pets & children.

Outside...
Use pinecones, acorns, branches, grapevine, feathers, fresh cut greenery, twigs, berries, etc.

*NOTE:* If using artificial items such as berries, ornaments, etc. Be sure they are weatherproof....no foam materials.
Evergreens in the Nebraska landscape...

- **SPRUCE**
- **WHITE PINE**
- **CEDAR & JUNIPER**
- **BOXWOOD**
- **HOLLY**
- **FALSE CYPRESS & ARBORVITAE**
- **YEW**
- **JUNIPER**
- **PINE**
When trimming evergreen branches...

- Do not trim all branches from one side of tree/shrub
- Trim branches from various sides and heights of tree/shrub
- Do not cut off TOP of tree
- Use clean, sharp pruners
- Do not leave branch “stubs”.
Feathers, flowers, seed pods & cones...
Berries...

- Crabapple
- Winterberry
- Juniper
Branches & Twigs...

- Birch branches / logs
- Curly Willow
- Scarlet Curls Willow
- Flame Willow
- Red or Yellow Stem Dogwood

Look for COLOR & UNIQUE SHAPE
Planting for a winter landscape and natural décor in the future...

**Evergreen Trees:**
- Spruce (all hardy varieties)
  - Hoopsii 30’h x 15’w
  - Black Hills 25’h x 10’w
  - Colorado 50’h x 20’w
  - Baby Blue Eyes 15’h x 6’w
- Fir (all hardy varieties)
  - Concolor 40’h x 15’ w
- Pine
  - Eastern White 60’h x 30’w
  - Columnar White 40’h x 10’w
  - Vanderwolf (flexilis) 20’h x 12’w
- Juniper
  - Taylor 30’h x 3’w
  - Skyrocket 15’h x 2’w
**Evergreen Shrubs...**

- False Cypress ‘Mops’ (Chamaecyparis) 4’h x 4-5’w
- Juniper ‘Daub’s Frosted’ 15”h x 5’w
- Boxwood ‘Green Velvet’ 3’h x 3’w
- Russian Cypress STD (Microbiota) height varies by graft x 3’w
- Spruce ‘Globe Blue’  4’h x 4’w
- Yew ‘Densiformis’ 4’h x 6’w
- Holly ‘Berri-Magic Kids’ 4’h x 6’w
Deciduous Trees & Shrubs With Colorful Bark or Branches…

- River Birch ‘Heritage’ 40’h x 35’w
- Birch ‘Royal Frost’ 30’h x 15’w
- Birch ‘Whitespire’ 40’h x 25’w
- Willow ‘Tortuosa’ (curly willow) 40’h x 20’w

- Dogwood ‘Yellow Twig’ 8’h x 8’w
- Dogwood ‘Ivory Halo’ (variegated foliage) 5’h x 5’w
- Hydrangea ‘Limelight’ 6’h x 6’w
  (many good Hydrangea options for harvesting dried flower heads.)
- Pussywillow 10’h x 10’w
Plants for harvesting cones, seedpods, etc…

- Sweet Gum Tree.....seed pods
- Pines....cones, many sizes & shapes depending on cultivar
- Lotus (non-hardy water garden plant).....seed pods
- Oak....acorns, vary in size & shape depending on cultivar
- Black Eyed Susan (Rudbeckia).....seed heads
- Siberian Iris....seed heads
- Coneflower (Echinacea)....seed heads
- Ornamental grasses.....flower/seed heads
  - Pennisetum ‘Hameln’
  - Miscanthus ‘Maiden Hair’
  - Panicum ‘Dallas Blues’

Berries...
- Winterberry (Ilex)
- Beautyberry (Callicarpa)
- Holly (Ilex)
- Chokeberry
Natural garlands...
Accent with homemade elements...
Put it all together....

Focus on combining color, texture and contrast for the most interesting décor.
Fill pots & baskets with pinecones & fresh greenery.
Use acorns, pine cones & cut branches around candles & to fill vases.
Lighted grapevine garland around doors & windows.
Outdoor planters...
Easy clean up & storage!

Most natural décor can be composted, recycled or thrown away after use so there’s little to hassle with in storage.
Be creative
Explore
Experiment
Design
Thank you for coming!

Questions?

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