

# FALL FRUIT TREE CARE



*Helpful Hints  
for you  
free from*

**OOLTEWAH NURSERY & LANDSCAPE CO., INC.**

*Late fall is the best time to start treating fruit trees to prevent pests and diseases*

## What To Use:

- Dormant Oil: Apply when trees are dormant (Dec.-Feb.) after all the leaves have fallen. It is best applied just before bud break in the spring. Mix with water as directed and spray all surfaces of the trunk, branches, and twigs. Apply when temps are above 35°. Dormant oil controls aphids, scale, spider mites, and many other insects by desiccating or smothering eggs and larvae.
- Lime Sulfur: Controls fungal and bacterial diseases such as fire blight, scab, bacterial blights, and anthracnose. Spray three times during the dormant season, usually December through February.
- Fixed Copper: Controls canker on cherries, peaches, plums. Canker is a disease that in extreme cases can kill a tree. Allow two weeks between applications of copper and any sprays containing sulfur. You may need to add a surfactant (spreader sticker) to help the copper stick to the tree's surface.

## How To Use It:

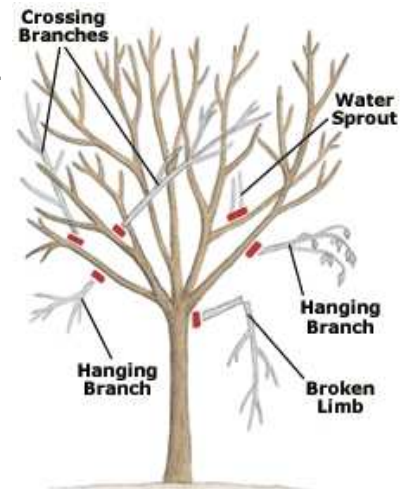
- Apples: apply copper before fall rains; dormant oil once or twice Jan.—March; Lime-sulfur in early spring (just before buds open).
- Apricots: apply copper before fall rains. Apply dormant oil Jan.-Feb. Do not apply sprays

containing sulfur to apricots or you could damage them.

- Cherries: Lime-sulfur applied weekly during blooming to prevent brown rot.
- Pears: Apply dormant oil three times. First in fall (Oct./Nov.), Secondly in winter (Dec./Feb), and finally in March, just before buds open. Spray lime-sulfur in early spring before buds open.
- Peaches: Spray copper or a good dormant fungicide three to four times between Dec. and bud break. Spray copper or lime-sulfur before fall rains and again in the spring just before bud break. Apply sulfur weekly during blooming and again after petals have fallen.

## Other Tree Maintenance:

- Fertilization: If needed, use a fertilizer for fruit trees such as “Organic Tree-Tone” from Espoma. Apply one time yearly each March before blooming according to the package instructions.
- Pruning: Examine your tree in late winter for crossing branches. Prune out the smaller of the two. Remember, when it comes to pruning do not over do it. Cut only when necessary.



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