

## ***Creek Friendly Yard Care - Winter Tips***

During winter, there are still some things that can be done to your yard which will help reduce the need for pesticides next growing season.

- **Spray dormant oil** on bark surfaces of disease and pest prone ornamental trees and shrubs. Dormant oil is non-toxic and works to kill overwintering insect eggs and fungal spores. Spray this heavy oil before leaves or buds appear and when temperatures are above 40 degrees. Check product label for a list of plants that are sensitive, such as azaleas. Also, do not spray on blue needled conifers such as blue spruce.
- **Spray a leaf protectant**, such as Wilt-pruf®, to hollies, rhododendrons, and other broadleaf evergreen plants to protect against winter moisture loss. Spray early in the winter season when temperature is above freezing.
- **Late winter (i.e. March) overseeding of lawns** and seeding of bare spots is a good time to begin to increase turf density before weed seeds have time to germinate.

**Source: Penn State Cooperative Extension**

<http://turfgrassmanagement.psu.edu>

[www.extension.psu.edu/hort/html](http://www.extension.psu.edu/hort/html)