Heartwood Nursery News

It's a Winter Wonderland of Hollies at Heartwood



Healthier for the Natural World in Your Backyard.

Holly Lore

With over 1,000 species of Holly throughout the world, the diverse group of plants known as the *Genus Ilex* has been valued for centuries.

Long associated with Christmastime, Holly was used throughout the year for decoration, protection and good luck. People believed the tree possessed magical power because "the sun never left the holly" and as a result its leaves were evergreen. Holly was placed outside doors and windows to keep mischief makers at bay and scattered on windowsills indoors so the fairies of the house would have a place to hide.

The word *Holly* in some cultures means 'holy.' Some believe the Holly is the original Crown of Thorns and the red berries (drupes) represent the blood of Jesus.

Local indigenous cultures made tea from the bark and berries of our native American Holly, *llex opaca*, for digestive purposes. Holly berries were also dried and used in trade as tokens with European settlers.

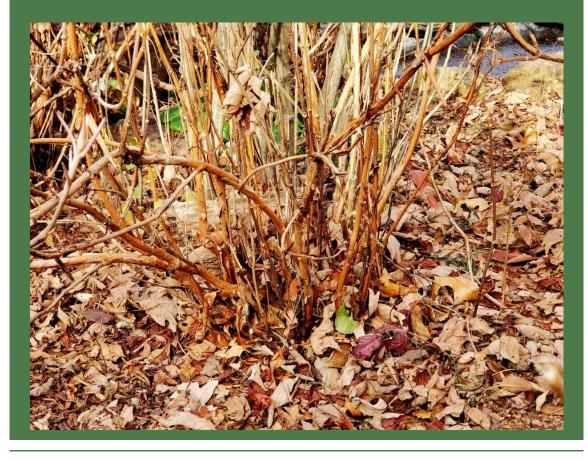
Want to know more and see the Holly in its seasonal glory? We're offering tours of Heartwood's Holly Arboretum through Saturday, December 14. Book now at heartwoodnursery.net/holidays.



Keep Watering New Plantings

This summer and fall were exceptionally dry in our area. So even with colder temperatures, it's important to keep watering your new plantings. Proper hydration will help new plants survive during the winter.

Remember to also leave the leaves for pollinator habitat.



Fresh and Festive for Your Home or Host:

Greenery and Honey

Our exceptionally beautiful wreaths and arrangements are handmade from greens grown and harvested on the property. We pride ourselves in never spraying pesticides or herbicides on our plants.

Want to create your own fresh wreath? We have openings in our Wreath Workshop, Saturday, Dec. 14. Visit

https://www.heartwoodnursery.net/wreathworkshops

A wreath or tabletop arrangement makes a great host/hostess gift for and will last well through the holidays.

We also sell honey from our own hives. Fresh local honey is a versatile sweetener with many uses ... sweet gift!

Give the gift of plants: We also have gift certificates available, good for the purchase of plants only.













Did You Know?

The fruits of Hollies aren't "berries." They're botanically classified as "drupes." Holly drupes are brightly colored in over 100 shades of red to orange to bright yellow. Only the female Hollies bear the drupes.





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