



December 19, 2022

Winter Begins



Winter arrives this week on the solstice, and the colder temperatures are definitely reflecting its appearance. Wednesday, the 21st of December, marks the shortest day of the year, and technically, this day notes the exact moment when our hemisphere is tilted the furthest away from the sun, which means less sunlight, and thus, less heat. However, throughout history it has meant much more than just less daylight.

Since pre-history, man has celebrated this astronomical event with feasts and celebrations as an offering to facilitate the earth's rebirth in spring, and with it, abundance. Ancient structures around the globe, like Stonehenge and Newgrange, appear to have been built to observe and measure the earth's cycles, with the winter solstice holding great importance. Saturn, the god of agriculture, was honored in a week-long celebration that included the now familiar gift giving and merriment. Men would bring a large log to burn during the year's longest night, known as the yule log.

Even in more modern times, farmers have understood this to be the final harvest, and so to feast in preparation for winter's more bleak, hungry months. To our eyes, the earth's tilt presents as a low sun on the horizon, producing those amazing shadows and some spectacularly colorful sunrises and sunsets. We will surely celebrate and feast like our ancestors as we marvel at the earth's delights.

For more information about the history and mystery of winter's solstice:

Farmer's Almanac

PLEASE NOTE: RP will be closed next week, December 25 - January 1. However, any snow services will be provided as needed.

We wish you all a safe and Happy Holiday!



Client Steward Team

This week our team will be performing the following service(s):

Winter pruning Snow services if needed

Contact Information

Feel free to contact your Garden Steward directly with any questions or requests for service. Or contact our office 847/549-1361, Monday-Friday, 8:30am-5:00pm. *NOTE: We continue to respect physical distancing protocols for staff and client safety until further notice.*

Design Team

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