

## **GARDENING BY THE MOON**

## WINTER PEST CONTROL

**Submitted by** 

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For most of us, we do not think about controlling insects, mites and diseases on our plants during the winter months. But now is an excellent time to reduce those overwintering pests and diseases for next spring and summer.

First, clean up leaves and other debris from your yard. This debris provides a perfect place for pests to overwinter. Also be aware of stacked firewood in your yard. It is another overwintering site for pests.

For the control of these overwintering insects, mites and some diseases, a good organic control is Neem Oil. Treat all your trees, shrubs, ground cover and perennials by spraying thoroughly. Apply at rates given on label instructions. Spray several days before an expected rain event and when temperatures are above freezing.

Neem Oil is an all natural pesticide derived from the Neem Tree. It is very safe for humans and pets. It is safe to use on fruits and vegetables right up until day of harvest.

By doing this treatment, it will benefit you by reducing your insect and disease problems during the spring and summer.