



DESIGN. CRAFT. PRESERVE.

THE FALL PROTECTION & 2027 OUTDOOR LIVING GUIDE

| Fall Plant Winterization Checklist

Use this checklist between late September and mid-November to shield your landscape investments from arctic winds, heavy snow, and bark splitting.

BURLAP WRAPPING: EVERGREENS & SHRUBS

- ☐ **Gather Supplies:** Wooden stakes (3–4 per shrub), natural breathable burlap roll, jute twine, hammer/mallet.
- ☐ **Set Frame & Clearance:** Drive stakes around perimeter (2–4" taller than plant). Confirm burlap won't touch foliage.
- ☐ **Wrap & Secure:** Wrap 2–3 times around stakes; fasten with jute twine. Leave 2" bottom air gap for airflow.
- ☐ **Eave Protection:** If under house eaves, cap top of frame with plywood to block falling snow/ice loads.

SUNSCALD PREVENTION: YOUNG & THIN BARKED TREES

- ☐ **Timing & Application:** Wrap in late October. Spiral paper wrap from soil line up to first lower branch, overlapping 1/2".
- ☐ **High-Snow Factor:** In high snow zones, wrap 12" above expected snow depth to block glare reflection.
- ☐ **Spring Removal:** Set calendar event for early April to remove wraps before spring warm-ups.
- ☐ **Eave Protection:** If under house eaves, cap top of frame with plywood to block falling snow/ice loads.

PRE-FREEZE: WATERING & ROOT PROTECTION

- ☐ **Soak Weekly:** Give 1–2" of water weekly through October until ground freezes (moist soil retains ground heat).
- ☐ **Mulch Smart:** Spread 2–3" shredded hardwood mulch out to canopy edge. Keep 3" gap away from trunk base.

| 2027 Outdoor Living Project Worksheet

Complete this section over winter to stay ahead of the spring construction rush and clear approvals early.

WISHLIST & PRIORITIES: CHECK OFF YOUR TOP PROJECT GOALS

Paver Patio / Walkway Expansion

Outdoor Kitchen / Built-In Grill

Gas or Wood Fire Pit/ Custom Outdoor Fireplace

Retaining / Seating Walls & Drainage Solutions

SITE OBSERVATION NOTES & TIMELINE TRACKER

Walk your yard after leaf-drop and note details for your design team such as: **Sightlines & Privacy, Water Runoff, and Sun Patterns.**

Phase	Target Date	Status / Notes
Site Consultation	Oct / Nov	Meet with Boulder Creek Outdoor Living team
3D Design Review	Nov / Dec	Finalize hardscapes, paver selections, lighting
HOA Submission	Dec / Jan	Submit 3D renders & site plans to board
City Permits	Jan / Feb	Engineering review & setback clearance
Material Staging	Feb / Mar	Hardscape materials reserved & ordered
Groundbreaking	Early Spring	Excavation begins at spring thaw

Ready to Bring Your 2027 Vision to Life?

Don't let Minnesota's short outdoor season catch you unprepared. At Boulder Creek Outdoor Living, we'll review your completed worksheet, turn your vision into a custom 3D design, and manage winter permitting—putting your project first in line for an early spring build across Duluth, the Iron Range and the North Shore. Schedule your Autumn Site Consultation today!



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