



# Preventing disease on your fruit trees and other plants

You can help prevent leaf curl, aphids, mildew, scales, and other diseases by acting now while your plants are dormant! Certain plants – especially fruit trees and roses – are susceptible to a wide range of issues during the growing season. An easy way to prevent many of these problems is to apply dormant oil or copper fungicide before leaves emerge, making January and February a good time to do it. There are various brands of dormant oil available, or you can find homemade recipes online. You will need to wait for a dry spell to apply the dormant oil – make sure there is no chance of rain for at least 24 hours after spraying. While this can help prevent problems on all of your fruit trees, **we highly recommend applying dormant oil to your peaches and nectarines at the very least.**

Peaches and nectarines are extremely vulnerable to Peach Leaf Curl - a fungus that causes leaves to curl up and turn bright red, but can also infect the blossoms and create raised wart-like growths on the fruit. *We recommend using an organic spray on trees which produce fruit that you will eat.* Roses will also benefit from a dormant oil application, but you can instead plan to apply a triple threat product – a fungicide, herbicide, & fertilizer – to your roses later on.