

Winter Protection for Colored Hydrangeas

Colored hydrangeas, such as 'Endless Summer', 'All Summer Beauty', and 'Big Daddy', bloom best on one year old wood. We recommend you protect the buds on the old wood by mulching your hydrangeas for the winter.

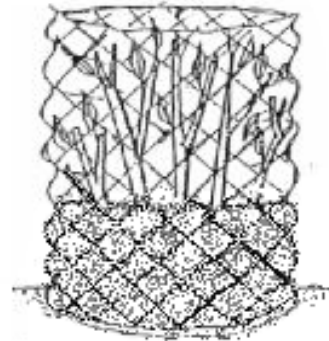
Winter Protection

Mulch plants in late fall, after two hard freezes (when the temperature has dropped below 15-20 degrees F.). Cover crown and canes of plant with shredded or chopped dried leaves to a depth of 8-12". Below are two methods of mulching. The chicken wire helps to contain the mulch.



Pile shredded or chopped dried leaves over crown of plant. Cover crown and canes to a depth of 8-12".

OR



Make a chicken wire cage around plant and fill with shredded or chopped dried leaves. Cover crown and canes to a depth of 8-12".

In spring, when the danger of a hard freeze is past, remove winter protection.

Pruning

In the spring, after the last hard freeze, you may prune plants to remove dead or damaged stems. Be careful to leave at least two fat pairs of buds on each cane to ensure good blooming.



When pruning, be sure to leave at least two fat buds on each cane.