



Winter Protection for Broadleaf Evergreens

Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Japanese Andromeda, Blue Holly, Mountain Laurel, Boxwood and Inkberry fall into the category of being a broadleaf evergreen. These plants are susceptible to having their foliage desiccate because of the drying winter winds and/or the intense light of a full sun location in the winter time. We recommend planting them in a wooded area as understory, or on the Northeast side of your home or structure. This will protect them from the wind and provide shade when the sun is most intense.

Creating a fence with stakes and burlap and/or cut evergreen boughs can help to block wind and shade your broadleaf evergreen plants. Wiltpruf is an antidesiccant spray that can also be used to prevent moisture loss in these plants.

The following are excellent articles, written by the University of New Hampshire, explaining winter damage to broadleaved evergreens and practices to help prevent damage to your plants.

<https://extension.unh.edu/blog/2021/03/rhododendrons-other-broadleaved-evergreens-showing-signs-winter-damage>

<https://extension.unh.edu/blog/2019/09/how-do-i-protect-my-trees-shrubs-winter-damage>

