

## Time to check your pack



### Tips from the Posse

By Mark Rackay

I was in my office, catching a short power nap, when the high-octave screech from the other room startled me awake. Bolting out the office door, ready to go three rounds with the Cookie Monster, I clumsily came to the rescue.

What I found was my wife pointing at my hunting pack and screaming, “Something in there moved. I tried to pick it up and hang it back on the hook, and it moved. What poor creature do you have trapped in there?”

“Nonsense,” I exclaimed. Nonsense is an excellent word and I exclaim it every chance I get. In the interest of marital bliss, I grabbed the pack and headed back into my office with it, keeping any further exclamations to myself.

Upon closer examination of the backpack, I realized that something was definitely amiss. I normally go through my pack and update the snacks and survival gear at the end of hunting season, in December, to have it ready for spring and summer hiking season. I then redo the pack in September to get it ready once again for the hunting seasons.



See CHECK page A13 Now is the time to check the contents of your pack, in case you have to spend an unplanned night in the woods. (Mark Rackay/Special to the Montrose Daily Press)

## Wrapping up the gardening season

How crazy has this gardening season been? First, we had an early spring freeze that damaged some of the fruit crops and early spring flowers. Then we had a killing frost June 8. Then we go from high temperatures in the upper 80s to freezing temperatures in a matter of a day.

Would it be an understatement to say this has been one crazy year? I think most people are actually anxious to see this hot, windy, smoky gardening season come to an end.

But the great thing about gardening is that we grow through the experiences and challenges and roll up our sleeves and say, “better luck next year.” So, let’s talk about some of the things that may have occurred in your landscape and how to overcome them next season.

The average first light frost date of 32 degrees is Oct. 7 in the Montrose area. I hope you didn’t get nipped by the frost earlier this week. I know many people covered their gardens just in case. Regardless, root crops and cold hardy vegetables should be just fine. Translucent colored tomatoes and peppers signal they were definitely hit by the frost and are history, but those that survived the cold could be picked and kept in a cool location to ripen. Did you know that some apples actually become even sweeter following a light frost, so there may be some good in the craziness?

Last year we had a hard freeze with temperatures



### Gardening A to Z

By Linda Corwine McIntosh

around 13 degrees on Oct. 11. This actually froze the leaves right onto the trees. When spring rolled around, the leaves were still clinging to some of the trees. Most trees managed to put on new growth and overcame.

However, I still see a lot of trees, especially maples, that still look discolored and a little deformed on the east side of the tree. These trees are going to go into winter a little stressed, so you might want to keep an eye on them during the winter months and make sure they don’t become too dry. A good soaking before the irrigation is blown out for the season will help.

Pinions had a rough summer with Ips beetle attacks. If your tree was one of the unfortunate ones to be attacked and is dead, or mostly dead, remove it this fall or winter. The beetles over winter will be in the infested trees and will emerge next spring. Because they’re attracted to fresh cut wood, this is one job you don’t want to put

off until next spring since it will attract beetles to your remaining pinions and even your neighbor’s trees.

Just in case you ran into a few setbacks in your garden this season, perhaps this may help. If your potatoes or cucumbers have a hollow center, it’s due to nothing more than uneven watering. Mulching and trying to keep the soil from becoming too dry or wet will help prevent the problem next season.

Some varieties of cucumbers are more prone to “hollow heart,” so if this is a continual problem, you might want to check the seed packet next spring to choose a variety that is less prone to hollow heart.

Maybe you’ve experienced bitter tasting cucumbers. This is also a result of dry soil or the cucumber becoming too mature. Once again, mulching and consistent watering will help alleviate this problem in the future.

Carrots that appear to have “multiple legs” are another common problem. This can happen if your soil is compacted. The poor little carrot wants to grow deep and straight, but the soil is just too hard. Amending the soil in the spring or planting cover crops this fall will help improve the soil and allow you to grow happy carrots in the future. You may want to choose shorter carrot varieties until your soil improves.

See SEASON page A13

NORTH AMERICA'S

#1 Walk-In Tub

NOW with an Exclusive

NEW Shower Package!

Now you can have the best of both worlds—there isn't a better, more affordable walk-in tub!

✓ First and only walk-in tub available with a customizable shower

✓ Fixed rainfall shower head is adjustable for standing or sitting

✓ Durable frameless tempered glass enclosure available

✓ High-quality tub complete with a comprehensive lifetime warranty

✓ Top-of-the-line installation and service, all included at one low price

EXCLUSIVE OFFER!

AND

FREE SHOWER PACKAGE! AN \$800 VALUE

\$1500 OFF

on a Walk-In Tub with this Limited Time Offer\*

For A Limited Time Only. With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase.

LOWEST PRICE GUARANTEE.

FOR DETAILS CALL TODAY!

SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB

970-299-8145

FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT

BUILT IN THE USA

LIFETIME WARRANTY

CSLB 983603 F13000002885 13HV08744300



## FROM PAGE A12

I try to convince people to carry some things in their packs for that “just in case moment.” These items

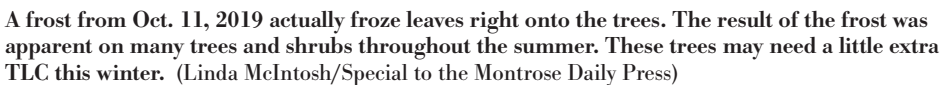
I am one of those people who will constantly add new items to their pack. Every time I see something that will be useful, someday, it gets added to the pack. This gets out of hand when the pack gets too heavy to lift. This is the big reason I must go through the pack twice a year.

- Knife and Leatherman tool: I prefer a separate knife, not just the one in the multi-tool.

- Duct tape: For first aid

Most people, who are lost or stranded, are rescued within 24 to 36 hours. It is not necessary to pack enough equipment to sur-

*For outdoors or survival related questions or comments, feel free to contact him directly at his email [elkhunter77@icloud.com](mailto:elkhunter77@icloud.com).*



## FROM PAGE A12

If the skin on your apples  
looks like they have a road

This is a great time to divide and transplant crowded spring and early summer blooming perennials. However, iris and

*Linda Corwine McIntosh  
is an ISA certified arbor-  
ist, licensed commercial  
pesticide applicator and  
Colorado advanced master  
gardener.*

**ENGLERT**  
**LeafGuard®**

is the permanent,  
clog-free gutter solution!\*

\*Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free



A+  
BBB  
ACCREDITED BUSINESS

QUALITY TESTED  
**GOOD HOUSEKEEPING**  
★ 1909  
LIMITED WARRANTY • ghead.com for details

**LeafGuard**  
**15 YEARS BACKED BY THE SEAL**

- LIFETIME NO-CLOG WARRANTY
- MADE ONSITE SPECIFICALLY FOR YOUR HOME
- THE ONLY ONE-PIECE SEAMLESS DEBRIS SHEDDING GUTTER SYSTEM.
- SCRATCHGUARD® PAINT FINISH




**ENGLERT**  
**LeafGuard®**  
**970-688-7295**

**Call Today for Your FREE Estimate!**

**\$99 DOWN PLUS RECEIVE A \$25 LOWE'S GIFT CARD**

**\$99 INSTALLATION\*\***

**\$99 PER MONTH**



WITH FREE IN-HOME ESTIMATE!!

\*Does not include cost of material. Expires 9/30/20. \*\*To be eligible for this promotion, the participant's estimated job cost must be at least \$7883. The advertised payment of \$99 a month is an estimate only, and assumes that third-party financing is available for new customers at an estimated 9.99% annual percentage rate for 132 months. Promotion available to qualified buyers on approved credit with \$99 down payment. Not all buyers will qualify. Higher annual percentage rates apply for buyers with lower credit ratings. LeafGuard is neither a broker nor a lender. Financing is provided by third-party lenders unaffiliated with LeafGuard, under terms and conditions arranged directly between the customer and such lender, all of which are subject to credit requirements and satisfactory completion of finance documents. Any finance terms advertised are estimates only. LeafGuard does not assist with, counsel or negotiate financing, other than providing customers an introduction to lenders interested in financing its customers. Expires 9/30/20. \*All participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$25 gift card. Retail value is \$25. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID, be able to understand English, and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail or e-mailed within 21 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored or promoted by Lowe's and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Expires 9/30/20.

A promotional banner for Great Outdoors Company. The background is a photograph of four people (two men and two women) camping in a desert landscape. They are gathered around a campfire, with one man standing and holding a mug, and two women sitting on the ground. The sky is cloudy. In the top left corner, there is a logo for 'GREAT OUTDOORS Company' featuring a stylized mountain and trees. In the top right corner, there is text that reads 'Fresh Fall Arrivals for Men & Women'. In the bottom right corner, there is a Marmot logo. At the bottom, there is a dark green banner with white and orange text providing the address and phone number.

Fresh Fall Arrivals for Men & Women

**GREAT OUTDOORS Company**

**Marmot**

**10 SOUTH SELIG AVE MONTROSE, COLORADO 81401 970-249-4226**