PROTECTING CITRUS & TROPICAL'S:

For the first two years these trees must be protected when temps drop below freezing 32 degrees. Foliar spray 2 oz. liquid seaweed per gallon of water to all leaves. Pile soil high up the trunk of the tree. Cover with freeze cloth or a sheet. Do not cover plants with plastic, plastic touching leaves will burn the leaves. If the plant is in a pot move into a garage or a protected area from freezing temps. Any additional practical heat source under the tented tree will probably save even the leaves. Examples include incandescent lights, decorative lights.

FREEZE DAMAGE TO TREES "WHEN TO PRUNE":

For trees that don't go dormant in the winter. Hopefully you have protected your ornamentals and citrus, but have received some damage. Wait until spring, when new growth has started, before doing any pruning. A little patience will go a long way in better preserving the tree and making sure that only damaged portions are pruned. In addition, pruning too soon can make it harder for a tree to recover from freeze damage. Disinfect pruning shears between each use with bleach or alcohol. This will keep disease from being spread from tree to tree.

ICE DAMAGE TO LARGE TREES:

A reputable tree arborist should be called to inspect the extent of damage to the tree. Broken limbs falling on roofs need to be removed from doing damage to the house. When damage is too extensive to the tree the tree may have to be removed.