

Tentative Fruit Group work plan for 2010:

January

- Meet as a group to decide what work from the following list will get done by whom (and what of it we may just not get done)
- Talk with EH Garden Committee re: possibility of \$ for further fruit installs in 2010

February

- Order rootstock and scions for April grafting workshop (using any Fruit Group member donations we can assemble if no EH Gardens \$ is available)
- Prune all trees, bushes, and grapes, and remove prunings from site; install spreaders, check wire guards and tree ties; remove any dead plants/trees

March

- Spray dormant oil on trees before bud break and on a day when temps. will be above freezing for at least 24 hours (may be in early April)

April

- Do small grafting workshop, plant out our grafts
- Install ordered trees and small fruits along East border and near shed if budget permits; install guards, stakes, ties and fertilizer
- Fertilizer and aglime at our standard rates (Robin knows) on existing plantings (and sulfur on blueberries)
- Consider whitewashing trunks of young trees to help see borers

May

- Water as needed, check ties and wire guards
- Spray trees with sulfur spray just before flower opens and twice more at one week intervals for insects and disease
- Spray kaolin clay (Surround) during flowering and reapply for approx 5-6 sprays as dictated by rain and pest pressure
- Spray Bt as dictated by Lepidopteran pest pressure
- Look for borers on tree trunks
- Mow as needed, mulch if weed pressure dictates

June

- Water as needed, check ties and wire guards
- Spray tank mix of Surround, sulfur, and Bt (or any 1-2 ingredients) as needed

- (Late June) set out red sticky traps in trees for plum curculio (think about trapping for apple maggot fly in future years)
- Mow as needed, mulch if weed pressure dictates

July

- Thin apples and other fruit as needed
- Water as needed, check ties and wire guards
- Spray tank mix of Surround, sulfur, and Bt (or any 1-2 ingredients) as needed
- Mow as needed, mulch if weed pressure dictates
- Prune trees again with emphasis on watersprouts. Prune out black knot and bleach tools as we go

August

- Water as needed, check ties and wire guards
- Assess possible fruit harvest, talk about plans for harvest events
- Spray tank mix of Surround, sulfur, and Bt (or any 1-2 ingredients) as needed
- Mow as needed, mulch if weed pressure dictates
- Prune out old canes from summer-bearing raspberries

September

- Water as needed, check ties and wire guards
- Mow as needed, mulch if weed pressure dictates
- Look for borers on tree trunks

October

- Water as needed, check ties and wire guards
- Mow as needed, mulch if weed pressure dictates
- Consider whitewashing trunks of young trees to reduce frost crack
- Remove fallen/diseased fruit
- Prune down entire beds of fall-bearing raspberries

November

- Meet to assess season

December

- Rest!