

# ESPALIERS

(say ESS-PAL-YAY!)

Plants, like these fruit trees, trained flat for artistic effect, space saving, and sometimes even increased production. Espaliers share all of the requirements of the trees they are made from:

**Sun (at least 6 hours of direct sun)**  
**Water**  
**Hygiene**  
**Pest and disease monitoring and treatment**

See our handout *Your Organic Orchard* for general fruit tree information, and the care schedule for your specific fruit for more information.

They also have further needs specific to this form. They *must* be supported by a strong structure, both to keep the branches in place and to keep them from breaking under the weight of their own fruit. And they *must* be pruned regularly – several times every summer – with attention to detail, in order to keep their shape and produce fruit. We recommend a good pruning and training book or class. Espalier is a rewarding craft to learn, and a valuable technique for fitting fruits into our ever-shrinking city lots.

