

# Month to Month Gardening List

## January

Inventory seed packets and saved seeds. Test the seeds saved from last year to make sure they are viable.

Make plans for garden beds and borders.

Prune dormant trees and shrubs.

Assess any damage heavy snow and ice may have caused.

## February

Start planting cool season annuals starts.

Start germinating any cool season annual seeds according to the last frost date.

Finish cutting back any seed pods left for the birds.

Cut back ornamental grasses.

Prune early flowering shrubs as soon as the blooms fade.

Fertilize cool season lawn according to your soil test.

## March

Transplant and divide early blooming bulbs. Order summer bulbs, too!

Feed Peonies when they are around 3" tall.

Cut back Lantana, Salvia, and Verbena.

Get your lawnmower ready.

Apply preemergent crabgrass preventer and broadleaf weed killer.

## April

Last average frost date is April 13<sup>th</sup>.

Mulch garden beds.

Side dress summer blooming perennials and bulbs with fertilizer or compost.

Plant summer flowering bulbs after April 13<sup>th</sup>.

Keep tall fescue lawns at 3" tall. Sow warm-season grass seed now.

## May

Fill in any voids as spring blooms fade with summer annuals and fall-blooming bulbs.

Time to plant warm-season vegetables and annuals.

Dig and divide overcrowded liriope borders.

Final harvest of cool season vegetables.

Keep cool-season lawns at 3.5". Continue seeding warm-season lawns until June.

## June

Pinch back herbs and deadhead flowers for continued growth.  
Spring flowering shrubs like Azaleas should be pruned now as needed once blooms fade.  
Water tomato plants regularly.  
Stake any late blooming plants such as asters and swamp sunflower.  
Scout for pests and use chemical control as the last defense.  
Watch for brown patch in cool season lawns.  
Plant pumpkins in early June.

## July

Scout for garden pests.  
Keep potted plants watered.  
Provide a clean water source for the birds.  
Summer vegetable harvest peaks this month.  
Start planning for your fall vegetable garden.  
July and August are the best months to eradicate Bermuda grass.

## August

Treat your lawn for grubs.  
Water your plants regularly and be aware of any watering restrictions due to drought.  
Soil test.  
Place orders for spring blooming bulbs.  
Evaluate both warm and cool season lawns for disease and pest issues.

## September

Prepare any planting areas for fall plantings.  
Set out cool season annuals for winter color.  
Continue deadheading perennials to extend bloom time.  
Divide and transplant spring flowering perennials as needed.  
Keep leaves off of lawns.  
Seed cool season grasses like fescue and bluegrass.  
Apply fertilizer according to your soil test report.

## October

Plant spring blooming bulbs.

Dig up tender summer bulbs like dahlias and store in cool, dry area.

Transplant any deciduous trees and shrubs after their leaves have fallen.

Continue fertilizing cool season lawns and annuals according to your soil test recommendations.

## November

Plant trees and shrubs this month.

Winterize your water hoses and irrigation lines.

Remove saucers from under terracotta containers where they will leave a stain.

## December

Mulch any tender plants and newly planted trees or shrubs.

Keep bird feeders filled with seed and suet. Keep bird baths from cracking by using a deicer or water wiggler.

Clean and oil garden tools before storing for the winter.

Winterize and store your mower.

Start planning your spring garden.

## Things to do all year in the garden

Use sunblock on exposed skin, wear protective clothing and hats, and apply bug spray as ticks are active every month except January.

Scout for pests and disease.

Routinely walk your garden to check fences, pots, birdbaths and feeders, for any issues.

Weed, weed, weed, weed!!!

Gardens are dynamic. As they change make notes and take action as needed for a healthy and happy landscape.