



FALL & WINTER GARDEN GUIDE

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37 FLOWERS,
BULBS & PLANTS

ALSO
TIPS ON

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FALL LAWN &
LANDSCAPE CARE

& PUTTING YOUR
GARDEN TO BED

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Organic Gardening:

Fall Gardening

The fall season is often overlooked, but provides an opportunity for extended yields, soil protection, and provides the ideal conditions for cooler weather crops. We oftentimes get so caught up in our spring and summer gardens that we neglect to see the advantageous possibilities of planting a beautiful fall garden.

It may be surprising to discover just how many varieties of vegetables thrive well as second season and late-season crops. Read seed packets and try to select varieties of these vegetables that have shorter maturation periods to give yourself the best chance of a complete and bountiful harvest. Fall is the perfect time for planting those edible plants that simply don't do well in the hot months. With a little bit of fall garden planning, you can enjoy a bountiful harvest all the way up to the edge of winter.



Whether you're planting in fall to harvest throughout fall or winter, planting bulbs to enjoy this spring, or simply cleaning up and preparing the garden there are so many important garden activities to keep you busy during this cooler season.

Organic Gardening:

Fall Garden Planning

There are a few key considerations we must take into account when designing a fall garden. Below we've outlined a few of the most important ones:

Calculate Frost Date

When we start to think about planting fall crops, it is paramount to identify when you can anticipate the first frost to roll through. Search online for the average frost date for your grow zone and have your seed packets handy, as they hold a wealth of information on the back.

You can calculate your ideal planting date by taking the date of the average frost in your area and subtracting the number of days until maturity from the back of your seed packet. This is the latest point that you should consider planting your seeds to ensure that the plants will produce fully before freezing temperatures conclude your growing season.



Amend Soil

When planting in mid-to-late summer for a fall crop, you are likely going to plant in spaces where plants have already been harvested, and the plants are spent and ready for removal. Once removed from the garden, it is essential to amend the soil in these vacant garden spots, as they have been depleted of nutrients by the previous crops. Mix in well-decomposed compost and some fertilizer before planting for best results.

Organic Gardening:

Fall Garden Planting

Equally as important as planning is planting. Luckily, there are a couple of options when it comes to preparing your fall garden and planting your late-season crops. Ideally, most fall crops should be planted by mid-July to mid-August. Some seeds can be sown directly into the soil in mid to late summer for a fall harvest. But, you may be waiting for a spring or summer crop to finish producing before you end its cycle to free up space in the garden bed.

Start Seeds Indoors

Whether you're waiting for cooler weather or for your spring and summer crops to finish you can get a jumpstart on growing vegetables and nurture them from seed to seedling before planting. Start seeds in seed trays indoors until the garden space is available, and it's the time is right for fall planting.



Companion Planting

To give your fall crops an extra boost, maximize your space in the garden beds, draw beneficial pollinators, and ward off unwanted pests, practice companion planting. Interplanting vegetables and herbs can positively impact the growth of your plants later in the growing season when the sun is lower in the sky and available less. [Learn more about companion planting here.](#)

Succession Planting

Succession planting means staggering your planting times to maximize garden space and extend your harvest. This practice prevents gardeners from having to harvest vast amounts of vegetables all at one time. Plant an array of seeds each week to achieve this rolling harvest. [Learn more here.](#)

Organic Gardening:

Finding Your Planting Zone

When it comes to fall gardening, you need to pay particular attention to your growing zone. Colder climates are done with fall gardening in early fall, while southern/warmer climates continue to plant and harvest all through their mild winters. Be sure you know your USDA Hardiness Zone, and refer to planting times that are recommended for your area.



The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Plant Hardiness Zone Map provides an informative view of average temperature trends across The United States and Canada. Zone Hardiness maps are based on the average yearly extremes for minimum temperatures in a given area.

[CLICK HERE TO FIND YOUR ZONE.](#)

The USDA Zone Hardiness Map is divided up into 13 planting zones. They are sectioned off by a 10-degree Fahrenheit differential for the average annual minimum temperatures. The larger the number is, the warmer the temperature is in the corresponding garden zone. For added clarity, zones are broken down into subsets of a and b, which represents a 5-degree differential in which a is colder than b is.



FALL PLANTING

MATURITY DAYS

| | | |
|---------|---|-----------------|
| 30-40 | ● | MUSTARD GREENS |
| 30-60 | | TURNIPS |
| 40-45 | ● | SPINACH |
| 45-60 | | SWISS CHARD |
| 45-60 | | ARUGULA |
| 45-70 | | BEETS |
| 50-60 | ● | KALE |
| 55-65 | | BUSH BEANS |
| 60-70 | ● | SNOW PEAS |
| 60-80 | | BROCCOLI |
| 65-75 | | LETTUCE |
| 65-75 | | POTATOES |
| 65-80 | | RADISHES |
| 70-80 | ● | CARROTS |
| 70-120 | | CAULIFLOWER |
| 75-120 | | PUMPKINS |
| 80-100 | ● | BRUSSEL SPROUTS |
| 80-100 | | CABBAGE |
| 80-100 | | CORN |
| 80-120 | | RUTABAGA |
| 85-95 | | COLLARD GREENS |
| 90-120 | ● | CELERIAC |
| 100-120 | ● | GARLIC |
| 100-125 | | ONIONS |

ZONE FIRST FROST DATES

| | | | |
|-------|--------------|---|--------------|
| 1 | AUGUST 25 | → | AUGUST 31 |
| 2 | SEPTEMBER 1 | → | SEPTEMBER 8 |
| 3 | SEPTEMBER 8 | → | SEPTEMBER 15 |
| 4 | SEPTEMBER 21 | → | OCTOBER 7 |
| 5 | OCTOBER 13 | → | OCTOBER 21 |
| 6 | OCTOBER 17 | → | OCTOBER 31 |
| 7 | OCTOBER 29 | → | NOVEMBER 15 |
| 8 | NOVEMBER 7 | → | NOVEMBER 28 |
| 9 | NOVEMBER 25 | → | SECEMBER 13 |
| 10-13 | NO FREEZE | | |

PLANTING

| July | August |
|------|--------|
| | |

| September |
|-----------|
| |

It is important to keep in mind that these dates are simply estimates and cannot account for unusual weather events or microclimates. For more information contact your local county extension office.

Edible Gardening:

Fall Veggies

Cauliflower & Broccoli

DAYS TO MATURITY

60 - 120

Brassica plants like broccoli and cauliflower thrive well in fall gardens. They produce well in the cooler days of fall to produce their vitamin-rich flower heads. The milder temperatures of fall provide the ideal steady growing environment for a flavorful crop. Since both require an average of 120 days to reach maturity, we recommend sowing seeds indoors in late spring and transplanting seedlings during mid-summer.

Cabbage

DAYS TO MATURITY

80 - 100

Cabbage is an exceptional fall crop to grow. They thrive on the cooler days of fall to produce their robust heads. The milder temperatures of fall provide the ideal steady growing environment for a flavorful crop. Since cabbages need an average of 100 to 120 days to reach maturity, we recommend starting seeds indoors in late spring and transplanting seedlings during mid-summer.



Carrots

DAYS TO MATURITY

70 - 80

Select quick-growing, more compact cultivars for sweet, crunchy root vegetables in just five to six weeks. Plant carrots in succession, sowing seeds a week or two apart for a continual harvest.

Edible Gardening:

Fall Veggies

Kale, Swiss Chard, Collards, & Mustard Greens

DAYS TO MATURITY

45 - 90

Hearty greens make great accents in fall and winter soups and stews and thrive in the cooler temperatures that the fall season brings. The seeds of these vitamin-rich plants germinate easily, and their leaves are hardy enough to withstand a light frost. In fact, the cooler bouts of temps can even improve the sweetness and texture of their leaves. Sow seeds for a fall harvest in mid-to-late summer or grow seeds indoors and transplant seedlings in late summer.



Lettuce

DAYS TO MATURITY

65 - 75

Don't miss the opportunity for fresh salad greens that continue through the fall months. If you are diligent, you can have a ready supply of lettuce available to harvest from early spring right up until the first frost. This quick-growing vegetable can be harvested beginning three weeks after seed sowing. Plant successive rows of seeds each week or two to maintain the flow to leaves and keep your salad bowl overflowing.

Edible Gardening:



Fall Veggies

Snow Peas

DAYS TO MATURITY

75 - 85

Snow peas do extremely well in cool weather, making them a premium fall crop. The cooler days of fall encourage more rapid growth and added sweetness of peas. Sow pea seeds approximately 11-12 weeks before the expected date of frost in your area. If you would like a more successive flow of snow peas, start a few weeks earlier and plant pea seeds each week.

Radishes

DAYS TO MATURITY

65 - 80

Take full advantage of the radish's quick maturation period by planting them for fall harvest. These deeply colored root vegetables only require three to four weeks from farm to table, and they are incredibly easy to grow. Utilize succession planting and sow seeds directly every week or so starting in mid to late summer.



Potatoes

DAYS TO MATURITY

65 - 75

Plant potatoes during summer to ensure a fall to winter harvest. Potatoes grown in the fall have slightly different needs than those in the spring. Plant potatoes as you would in the spring and apply granular fertilizer every 5-6 weeks during the growing season to provide a long-term nutrient release. Be sure you're giving them enough water during hot spells through summer.

Edible Gardening:

Pumpkins

Planting

DAYS TO MATURITY

75 - 120

What's more satisfying than growing your own fall pumpkins for baking, carving, and decorating? If you'd like your pumpkins to be ready by Halloween check planting recommendations for your zone. Generally, pumpkins can be planted from May through July. Pumpkins love warm climates and grow vigorously in them, therefore, plant your seeds in midsummer if you live in the warmest grow zones and early may if you live in a colder climate.



Growing

- Read your seed packet for spacing requirements, pumpkins love having lots of room to spread out and grow.
- Pumpkins love full sun and well-draining soil with a pH of 5.5 to 7.0.
- Water your pumpkin plants deeply, allowing the soil to dry in between waterings of about two to three times per week.
- Add organic mulch around your pumpkin plants to conserve water and regular the soil temperature.

Harvest

Pumpkins are fully ripe when they have a firm rind, and they have a robust color throughout. Pumpkins should have hard exterior shells that resist denting when you press a fingernail to them. To further ensure their ripeness, you can also tap on the rind, and you should hear a nice hollow thump like a drum. **Click to learn more about [planting](#), [growing](#), and [harvesting](#) pumpkins.**

Edible Gardening:

Pumpkin Varieties

Miniature

These are great for decorating and come in a variety of colors. Look for Baby Boo (a white variety), Jack-Be-Little, Jack-Be-Quick (darker orange), Munchkin (standard orange), or Sweetie Pie (medium orange and scalloped).



Baking & Canning

For canning and baking pies choose Small Sugar, New England Pie, Winter Luxury, Autumn Gold, Baby Pam, Ghost Rider, Fairy Tale, and Cinderella. Choose those that are between 4 to 8 pounds.

Jumbo

Sometimes it's fun to grow a few huge pumpkins, so if size is your priority — and we're talking 50-100 pounds here — consider Atlantic Giant, Big Max, Big Moon, Mammoth Gold, or Prizewinner.



Jack-O-Lantern

Looking for a good carving pumpkin? Try the variety that is actually called Jack-O-Lantern, as they were bred for exactly this purpose. If you want to try something new, look for the Lumina pumpkin — its white skin covers orange interior flesh and throws off a spooky glow.

Edible Gardening:

Fall Fruit Trees

So many delectable fruits come into season during fall such as apples, pears, grapes, huckleberries, guava, passion fruit, and persimmons. There are also a variety of planting that can be done in the fall and although you can plant fruit trees at any point in the growing season fall is truly the best time to plant many varieties. Some of the benefits of planting fruit trees in the fall include less watering, less heat related stress, and more time for the tree to become established and create deep roots before the summer heat arrives.



Selecting A Tree

When it comes to planting in the fall, be mindful of your hardiness zone prior to planting. If your ground freezes by late-October or November, you may want to plant in the spring. However, if you feel comfortable planting in the fall, and you expect your soil to be workable, consider planting cold-hardy fruit trees such as apples, plums, peaches, and many citrus varieties.

Whichever variety you choose to plant remember to protect your tree over the winter. A great way to do this is to simply cover your tree in burlap to shield it from frost.

Additional Resources:

[How to Grow an Apple Tree](#)

[Tree Planting FAQ](#)

[How to Grow a Peach Tree](#)

[How To Grow The Best Fruit Trees](#)

[Citrus Tree Planting Guide](#)

[Video: 5 Tips For Growing Citrus in Containers](#)

Edible Gardening:

Fall Citrus Tree Planting

There's nothing quite as sweet as walking out into your backyard and picking a citrus fruit off of a tree. From grapefruits to lemons, limes, and oranges, many gardeners grow a variety of citrus fruits successfully and many prefer planting in the fall to give their trees plenty of time over the winter to develop a strong root system.

Before you begin digging holes for your citrus trees consider your planting zone. Any USDA Hardiness Zone north of zone 8 should plant citrus trees in containers, as most citrus will suffer damage when exposed to temperatures under 32 degrees F. Gardeners in zone 8 can plant citrus outside as long as it's on the south or southeast side of the house for protection. Zone 9 and above can safely grow citrus in their gardens without much need for added protection – although it's always best to be prepared to cover them up in case of a fluke cold snap.



Planting Tips

- Use well-draining soil with a pH between 6.0 - 7.0.
- Plant your tree in an area where it will receive full sun all day long.
- Smaller is better when purchasing your new citrus tree. Smaller trees will adapt better to the new environment and will have the best chance of thriving compared to a larger, established tree.
- Make sure you're watering your tree deep and slow to encourage the water to get all the way down to the roots.

Edible Gardening:

Fall Apple Tree Planting

Canopies overflowing with crisp, juicy apples right in your backyard may seem like something that you could only dream about, but it is well within your reach. If you live in a mild climate with mild winters fall is the perfect time for you to plant apple trees.

Choose the Right Variety

Choose a cold hardy, zone appropriate variety. Some great cold hardy varieties are Honeycrisp, Cortland, Red Delicious, and Empire apples. You must also plant with pollination in mind. Apple trees are cross-pollinators, so a different type of apple tree with the same bloom time must be planted nearby within about 1500 feet.



Planting Tips

- Use well-draining soil with a pH between 6.0 - 6.5.
- Plant your tree in an area where it will receive full sun.
- Remember that your young tree will become a large, mature tree so leave more than enough space for your tree to grow.
- Dig your hole as deep as the plant's root ball and two to three times its width. Spread the tree roots, making sure that roots are not tangled up.
- Place the root ball in the hole so that the first root is even or slightly about ground level. Spread soil over the outspread roots and fill in the hole.
- Mulch the area around the apple tree, leaving a one-inch space around the tree trunk.

Edible Gardening:

Fall Peach Tree Planting

Growing peach trees can be a delicious and rewarding experience but to ensure success you must choose a variety that will fit with your climate. Peach trees can be grown in Zones 4 to 9, but do especially well in Zones 6 to 8. If you live in a colder regions opt for a cold tolerant variety.

When to Plant

Peach trees can be planted despite cool temperatures, especially if they arrive bare-root and dormant. If you're expecting a hard frost, we recommend waiting to plant until temperatures become more moderate. Do not expose roots to temperatures that are freezing or below. Generally, as long as your soil is workable, it is okay to plant.



Planting Tips

- Use loamy, well-draining soil with a pH between 6.0 - 6.5.
- Plant your tree in an area where it will receive full sun all day long.
- Standard-sized peach trees can be spaced 15 to 20 feet apart, while dwarf varieties should be planted 10 to 12 feet apart.
- Dig your hole as deep as the plant's root ball and two to three times its width. Spread the tree roots, making sure that roots are not tangled up.
- Place the root ball in the hole so that the first root is even or slightly about ground level. Spread soil over the outspread roots and fill in the hole.
- Peach trees require regular watering for an average of three times per week as the young tree gets established.

Edible Gardening:

Extend Your Season

We always want to stretch our gardening season for as long as possible but this is especially true in the fall. As the threat the cold and even freezing temperatures approaches it's important to be proactive by protecting your plants to achieve the most bountiful harvest possible.

Remember to Water

Although most plants are dormant in the winter and require less water, be mindful of irrigation if you haven't had any rainfall in some time. Aim for a deep watering a couple times a month in the mornings.

Protect Plants From Frost

Sheets, freeze cloth, and row covers are your best friends here. Water lightly the night before an expected frost or freeze to create insulation, and throw on some string lights to offer a bit of extra warmth to your tender plants. Remember to bring containers inside and place them near a sunny window as temperatures begin to drop.



Harvest Early & Often:

Check plants every couple of days and remove fruits and pods this will stimulate the plant to produce more fruit before cold weather and frost arrives.

[More Harvesting Tips Here](#)

Prune:

Letting in more sunshine and airflow through pruning can help crops that need plenty of direct sunlight to produce more fruit.

Edible Gardening:

Fall & Winter Mulching

Mulching your garden in the fall has several benefits which will facilitate your spring gardening and result in a more bountiful harvest the following summer. Straw is a great type of mulch for the garden, but wood chips or shavings, dried leaves, pine needles or even dried grass clippings make good mulch as well. Some benefits to fall & winter mulching are:

Weed Control:

Applying mulch will help prevent new weeds from growing when the temperatures start to rise in the spring. Mulching walkways and around plants during the growing season will also reduce the amount of weeding you need to do.

Pest Control:

A thick layer of mulch around the base of your plants can help reduce the pests that reach your plants. Many insects live in the soil and climb the stalks of plants to reach the leaves and blossoms, so a layer of mulch can impede their progress.



Improve Soil Structure & Helps Control Soil Temperature:

As your mulch breaks down, it will add organic matter and some nutrients to your garden soil as well as improve the soil structure. Structure is important for plants trying to establish roots. It also enhances drainage and allows air and water to penetrate the ground more easily. Mulch also moderates the soil temperature, insulating it to a great extent from the outside temperatures. For a winter crop like garlic, this is extremely beneficial to prevent it from freezing over the winter in cold climates.

Edible Gardening:

Using Fall Leaves in the Garden

Leaves are free and abundant, and they are one of the greatest resources available during the fall. Whether saving them over the winter to make leaf compost or applying them directly over the soil, leaves are very nutrient dense and beneficial for your garden. Tree roots go deep down into the earth, and all of those nutrients circulate through the tree and into the leaves, which enhances them and makes them exceedingly beneficial to your soil.



Add Leaves to the Garden

When adding leaves to the garden pile them 2 to 3 feet high. Leaves break down quickly over winter and will leave you with a mulched garden in the spring. Leaves are a great, easy, and free resource to enhance your soil and aid in putting your garden to bed for the winter. They also act as a terrific alternative to traditional mulch.

Leaves to Avoid

Avoid adding black walnut, poison ivy, oak, and sumac leaves as they are generally not good for the soil. They can however be added to your compost but may take longer to break down than other leaves.



FALL FLOWERS, BULBS, & SHRUBS

FALL BULBS

Plant in the Fall to Enjoy Beautiful Blooms All Spring.

- ALLIUM
- CROCUS
- DAFFODILS
- DUTCH IRISES
- GRAPE HYACINTH
- HYACINTHS
- LILIES
- LILY OF THE VALLEY
- SCILLA
- SNOWDROPS
- STARFLOWER
- TULIPS

FALL SHRUBS & PLANTS

Enjoy Berries, Flowers, & Beautiful Leaves to Enhance Your Fall Landscape.

- ACARYOPTERIS SHRUB
- BEAUTYBERRY
- GOLDENROD
- OAKLEAF HYDRANGEA
- ORNAMENTAL GRASSES
- SAGE VARIETIES
- SPICEBUSH
- SEDUM
- SPIRAEA
- SUMAC
- WINTERBERRY HOLLY

PLANTING

FALL FLOWERS

Plant in Spring & Summer to Enjoy Beautiful Flowers in Fall.

- ANISE HYSSOP
- ASTERS
- BALLOON FLOWERS
- BLACK-EYED SUSANS
- CHINESE LANTERNS
- CHRYSANTHEMUMS
- CORAL BELLS
- DIANTHUS
- HELENIUMS
- JAPANESE ANEMONES
- PANSY
- SUNFLOWERS
- SWEET ALYSSUM
- VIOLAS

| July August | September October |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| | |
| November December | |
| | |

Flower Gardening:

Fall Plants & Flowers

When looking for fall plants to grow there are plenty that provide appealing blooms, extraordinary color, and visual interest to the autumn landscape. With a little bit of planning, flower gardens can be ablaze with a display of spectacular hues even after summer blooms have faded.



Below are some of our best tips for cultivating beautiful fall gardens:

Stake Flowers:

August can bring late summer storms or even hurricane season, and those windy conditions can topple your taller flowers like dahlias. Provide them with a little extra support with garden stakes.

Water Deeply:

Rather than sprinkling a little water daily, aim for less frequent but deeper watering. Put you hose on trickle and let it lay on top of the soil near your flowers. Move it around to a different location after about 15 minutes.

Deadheading & Cutting:

Deadheading and cutting encourage new blooms and keeps your flowers looking tidy. Some flowers are ideal candidates for indoor flower displays and drying, like hydrangeas, daisies, and strawflower.

Fertilize Containers:

Container plantings can peter out more quickly than their in-ground counterparts, so be sure to give them a little extra love. Try sprinkling compost on the soils surface and water it in. Worm castings work great as well.

Flower Gardening:

Fall Flower Varieties

Asters

Plant asters in containers or in-ground and enjoy a blanket of daisy-esque blooms that help ease the transition of summer through fall. Asters attract beneficial pollinators to the garden through the end of the fall season, so they are a great accent near your fall veggies.



Sunflowers

Bring some added happiness into the gardens this fall season with sunflowers. Plant them from seed in spring and summer and bask in their beauty in late summer through mid-fall. Plant mammoth varieties to the rear of your gardens for towering backdrops that are full of cheer. They come in many colors and varieties from small border and container-sized to medium and tall types.

Helenium

This late-summer showstopper is an excellent option for fall containers. It produces daisy-like flowers that resemble an autumn sunset. Continually deadhead the spent flowers will enjoy these beautiful flowers through a good part of the fall.



Flower Gardening:

Fall Flower Varieties



Chrysanthemums

Mums come in a wide variety of cultivars that produce showy mounds of color as summer blooms fade. Mums thrive well in containers as well as in traditional garden beds. They are readily available in the fall and can be treated as annuals or planted in springtime as perennials. They require pruning and deadheading to prepare their roots for hardiness and blooms for autumn.

Coral Bells

Coral bells are great in containers and provide show-stopping color combinations. These shade-loving plants are also tolerant of full sun in the cooler days of fall. They are spectacular bloomers, but it may be their colored and uniquely shaped foliage and longevity that adds visual interest to planters throughout the growing seasons.



Japanese Anemone

This is one of the few fall flowers that feature pink and white hues. They thrive in partial shade with moist soil, but will tolerate full sun as long as they get adequate water. They grow to about 12" high and can spread quickly. The foliage will blacken after the first hard freeze, after this cut it back.

Flower Gardening:

Fall Plant Varieties

Russian Sage

Spires of silvery purple will adorn your fall landscape for weeks, first appearing at the summer's end or in early fall. Plant in the ground in springtime for a display each year. Russian sage is a low maintenance plant that should be pruned back in early spring each year because its flowers produce themselves on new growth.



Ornamental Grasses

Grasses should not be overlooked in fall landscapes. Many produce splashes of color and textures that have tremendous visual appeal. They can be planted in-ground, and they even add texture and height to container displays. Try planting eye-catching varieties such as 'fountain grass,' 'flame grass,' 'Japanese forest grass,' and 'pink muhly grass' in your fall garden.

Winterberry Holly

Winterberry Holly is a perennial shrub that puts on quite a show in the fall when tiny white flowers transform into bright red berry clusters throughout the entire branches. This in-ground perennial shrub brings life to the landscape throughout the fall and even into the winter.



Flower Gardening:

Planting Fall Bulbs

If you've ever admired the unique early bloomers of spring and wished you had them to look forward to after a long cold winter, you can make it happen in your own garden by planting fall bulbs. There are many bulbs you can plant in fall that will reward you with their intriguing textures and showy blooms each spring.



Planting Tips

Bulbs to plant in fall should be planted in late fall, a couple of weeks prior to a hard freeze. Select your desired bulbs while taking the level of sun exposure and proper drainage in your garden into advisement. Dig holes to the recommended depth and spacing as recommended for the variety. Place bulbs sprout side up in the hole.

You can usually determine the sprout end from the root end by its shape. The sprout end usually has a bit of a peak, while the root side is usually a bit flatterer where previous roots have been cut off. Cover the bulbs gently with soil so as not to overturn them and pat down to secure the soil in place.

By spring, you will be excited to see them sprouting up from the soil and greeting you with their vibrant blooms. It is important to note that once your bulbs have finished blooming, leave the leaves and stems to wither back on their own full before trimming them back. This allows the energy to push back into the bulb to be stored for next year's showstopping blooms.

Flower Gardening:

Fall Bulb Varieties

Allium

Allium comes in varying heights from five-inch bloomers to prominent five-foot wonders. They produce tantalizing globes of flowers that sway in the breeze on slender stems. Hardy in USDA zones 5-8, they enjoy full sun exposure and produce blooms of pink, yellow, purple, and white.



Lilies

Plant lily bulbs this fall for large, showy, spring blooms. These perennial delights add striking beauty and sophistication to the garden and produce blooms in both spring and midsummer. Their striated and colorful, trumpet-shaped flowers stand tall for all to see, and they come in a vast array of bright and beautiful hues. Lilies emit a lovely scent and needs very little care as long as it has full sun.

Crocus

Crocuses tend to be the first sign of the arrival of spring, as they are the first flowers to peek out of the ground as winter comes to a close. These low-growing perennials form clusters of petite blooms in white, yellow, orange, pink, and violet. Crocus bulbs are easy to plant and grow to a height of about 5-6 inches in USDA Grow Zones 3-8.



Flower Gardening:

Fall Bulb Varieties



Daffodils

Daffodils are easy to grow and add delightful, sunny, yellow hues to gardens year after year. Daffodil bulbs are readily available at garden centers and are very reasonably priced for the show that they display in gardens in USDA Grow Zones 4-11. They grow to heights of 12-14 inches and come in different variations of whites and yellows.

Hyacinths

Bring the luxurious scent and bright, cheerful blooms of hyacinth into your garden to greet you each spring. Choose from bulb varieties that flourish into yellow, white, pink, red, peach, blue, and purple spikes. Hardy in USDA Grow Zones 4-8, these bulbs are easy to grow in containers, in-ground, or as a transplant.



Tulips

The tulip flower puts on quite a show each spring. Consider planting several varieties of tulips that have different bloom times and color variation, so you can continually enjoy this spring beauty. Tulips come in a seemingly endless variety of vibrant colors, and their petals grow into a lovely cup-like shape with decorative stamens.

Flower Gardening:

Putting Roses To Bed

It is crucial for the health and longevity of your roses that you put them to bed each fall. But what exactly does this mean? Putting your roses to bed refers to the process of helping your roses enter dormancy and protecting them from the freezing winter temperatures. How you care for your roses in the fall and winter can mean the difference between a “just okay” rose display next year and a “wow!” rose display come spring. If your roses have to struggle through the winter, they’re already tired come spring, and won’t have as much vigor as those that were protected. [Click here to learn more.](#)



Cover:

The cycles of freezing and thawing can weaken rose plants, so covering them gives them an added layer of protection. Using fresh soil or compost, pile soil up around the base of the plant, covering the bud union (swelling at the base), and then up on the canes about 2 feet.

Mulch:

After your first hard freeze, add a layer of mulch (bark chips, shredded hard wood, or dry, shredded leaves) over the mounded soil or compost. In the spring, you’ll remove the mulch and soil/compost layers and spread them around the plant below.

Prune

This is not a hard pruning, rather, it’s a pruning only to remove those odd or over-long canes that stick out from the rose bush. When the winds come howling, your rose bush will not be as susceptible to damage as a result. Some canes will die back during the winter, that’s normal and to be expected, so plan to prune those off in early spring.

Lawns & Landscapes:

Fall Lawn Care

We all love a green and healthy lawn as a perfect backdrop for summer cookouts and roughhousing with the kids, and proper lawn care and fertilizing is the best way to get one. Experts agree that if you only fertilize your lawn one time during the year, fall is hands-down the best time. Why? Because you're setting your lawn's health up for the next year, encouraging deep and healthy roots that resist drought, pests, and weeds.

Fertilize Your Lawn

- Early autumn to late fall is the perfect time to fertilize, but to be on the safe side, always follow recommendations not only for your area but for the type of grass you have.
- Look for a fertilizer that has higher amounts of potassium, phosphorus, and calcium and slightly less nitrogen. Applying too much nitrogen encourages new green growth that can be damaged by an early frost.

***Note:** Phosphorous restrictions. Some garden centers may not have lawn fertilizer with phosphorous in the formulation due to local ordinances to protect waterways.



- Mow your grass at the recommended height before fertilizing, and go ahead and let some of the clippings fall in place for added nutrients.
- Never fertilize right after a rainfall; be sure the grass blades are dry before applying.
- Never apply more fertilizer than is recommended, thinking that “more is better.” More can actually damage your grass, so adhere to the package label faithfully.

Lawns & Landscapes:

Fall Lawn Care

Mow a Little Lower

The organic lawn is typically mowed higher (up to 3") to allow more nutrients to develop, but when the grass is dormant over the winter, you can mow lower. Not only does it look neater, it discourages damaging field mice from staking claim over the cooler months. Lower your blade to 2.5" during the fall, and then for the last mow of the season, early November, lower it to 2".

Sow Grass Seed

Got thin spots in your lawn? Now's the time to fill 'em in. Scratch the soil with a hard rake, scatter your grass seed, and cover with a light layer of compost or high-quality garden soil. Water frequently until grass seed germinates for beautiful grass this spring.



Maintain Your Lawnmower

This is one of those chores we often forget to do, then when it's time for the first lawn-mowing in the spring, we run into problems. Clean and repair your mower parts, and drain the gas out, as any gas left in over the winter can clog your mower's fuel lines. If you decide to leave gas in, simply start your mower twice a month through the winter to keep the fuel lines open.

Winter Gardening:

Putting Your Garden to Bed

Putting your garden to bed is an essential activity once your fall garden is finished. Putting your garden to bed simply means cleaning up, packing away things you will not need until spring, and making sure everything is ready to go when next season. While these may not be the most fun garden activities, they will help make next season a breeze!

Reflect & Prioritize

Reflect on this year's garden to decide what's most important. If you had a pest or disease problem, focus there. If you've been wanting to amend, fertilize or clean up your soil, now is a great time. And if you have a lot of tender new plants, you should focus on making sure they are protected.



Cleaning Up

Now that the growing season has officially ended start cleaning up your garden by:

- Harvesting all vegetables and fruit. Try not to leave fruits and veggies out all winter as they will rot and attract animals.
- Collect all your soil and put it away for storage (more info. below).
- Gather up, disinfect, sharpen, and organize your garden tools. Now is a great time to reorganize your garden shed.
- Pull dead or declining annuals as well as any lingering weeds.

Winter Gardening:

Putting Your Garden to Bed

Plant

You may be surprised to find planting on this list, but planting bulbs in the fall allows for gorgeous, showy blooms come spring. Try planting flower bulbs, garlic bulbs and rhubarb before the ground freezes this winter. During this time it is also a good idea to plant cover crops. We've included more information on cover crops below.



Protect

Be prepared to **protect any plants in case of sudden cold weather**. Use row covers, freeze cloth, or consider a cold frame to extend your growing season. You can also use “hoop houses” that cover an entire vegetable garden bed during cold weather by using arc flexible PVC. If you have any young or delicate trees, consider wrapping their trunks with burlap to protect them

Don't forget to **bring your potted plants indoors**. If you live in an area that experiences very low temperatures or snow it is often best to bring things such as potted herbs, citrus, succulents and other potted plants that are not cold hardy inside for the winter. Make sure to place them near a sunny window as they still need light.

Winter Gardening:

Cover Crops

Cover crops are great for gardens of any size and in nearly any climate, because they perform a variety of duties in keeping your garden healthy and thriving. Better yet, it's as simple as sowing a packet of seeds — if you've over-seeded a bare patch of your lawn, you can sow a cover crop.

What is a Cover Crop & What Do They Do?

Cover crops are plants that put back into the soil what other plants take out. They are not harvested for food; rather, they are turned back over into the soil at the end of their growing season where nutrients are added to the soil as they decompose. So, cover crops are grown not for your food, but for the soil's food.



Edible plants like vegetables and herbs use a lot of your soil's nutrients in order to set fruit or leaves, so it's our job to add those nutrients back in, and one great way to do that is with cover crops. So, say you're at the end of your vegetable season, and you want your garden to rest over the winter. Don't just pull out your summer and fall veggies and call it good, though — bare soil invites erosion, weeds, and loss of precious nutrients, so let's cover it up.

Not all cover crops provide the same benefits, you'll want to look for a mix that addresses the issues you're having or the goals you want to accomplish in your garden. However, it's a delicate balance. Read more about how to choose the best cover crops [here](#).

Winter Gardening:

Storing Soil Over The Winter

Many of us have bags of potting soil lying around in the garden, by the back door, in the garage, or in the potting shed. Now is the time to organize all those bags for storage so your potting soil is ready to go in the spring!

Gather & Inspect Bags

Round up all of your potting soil bags, opened and unopened. Inspect each bag, removing leaves and any obvious bugs from the contents. Make sure the potting soil is completely dry, as any lingering moisture can cause a variety of mold or mildew problems over the winter.



Purchase & Clean Storage Bins

Purchase a few large 20 to 30 gallon plastic storage bins. These work great for storing soil and keeping the moisture out over winter. Go for ones that have lids that snap on all the way around rather than those that simply snap on by the handles for added confidence that moisture will be kept at bay.

Thoroughly clean and dry your bins, especially if you're using bins you already have on hand. Use a weak bleach water solution (9:1 works well), and soak both the container and lid for about 10 minutes to sterilize. Empty the bleach water and allow both pieces to air dry. Before using, wipe with a clean cloth to make sure there is no moisture on board.

Winter Gardening:

Storing Soil Over The Winter

Prep Your Soil

Combine potting soil into fewer bags if you have small quantities in several different bags. Seal all of your bags with clear tape before placing the bags in the tub. You can also simply empty the potting soil straight into the storage tub itself, sans bags. After loading the potting soil, close the container with the lid, making sure it's completely snapped into place.



Store in a Dry Place

Store your tubs in any dry place like a shed, a garage, or a basement. Be sure to store your items far enough under the eaves so nothing gets wet during inclement weather!

Does Organic Soil Expire?

Generally, soil has a very long shelf life and can be used well after a year from being purchased. Occasionally, potting mix can dry out especially if the bag has been opened. If this is the case, simply mix it around to break up any areas that may have hardened. Adding some water may also help. Since organic soil mixes have a low NPK, we always recommend mixing in an organic granular fertilizer at the time of planting to provide a slow release of nutrients as the nutrients in the soil are used up by the plant over time. This will ensure consistent plant growth and yield.

Winter Gardening:

Fall & Winter Water Collection

Fall and winter can be a great time to setup a rainwater collection system. Rainwater is one of our most valuable resources, and is often taken for granted. Consider for a moment the rain that falls on your roof. Half an inch of rain on a 2,500 square foot roof equates to 778 gallons of water. In a region where the annual rainfall is 20", that's 31,120 gallons of water. What could you do with that free water?



Basic Rainwater Capture

An easy way to get started is by using a stand-alone tank or rain barrel attached to gutter downspouts. Rain barrels are set up on a platform to allow gravity feed of the water. Multiple rain barrels can be connected to create a linked system which is great for rainwater storage in rainy areas.

Complete Rainwater Capture Systems

A complete system follows the rainwater's journey, from catchment to its final destination. Filters are installed at the entrance of downspouts or across the entrance to collection tanks. Larger systems feed high capacity underground storage tanks with submersible pumps. Filters and sterilizers remove impurities and kill harmful microorganisms, producing potable water and any water overflows are directed to a backup cistern.

*Rainwater capture and usage restrictions may apply, check local water capture and storage regulation in your area.

Date _____

Season _____



Plants Harvested This Season

A large rectangular area with a light gray dot grid pattern, intended for writing down the names of plants harvested during the current season.

Plants To Try Next Season

A large rectangular area with a light gray dot grid pattern, intended for writing down the names of plants to be tried in the next season.



What Worked This Season?

A large rectangular area with a light gray dot grid pattern, intended for writing down notes about what aspects of the growing process were successful this season.

Do Differently Next Season

A large rectangular area with a light gray dot grid pattern, intended for writing down notes about what changes should be made for the next growing season.



Addition Notes From This Growing Season

A large rectangular area with a light gray dot grid pattern, intended for writing down any additional notes or observations from the growing season.





GARDEN NOTES & TASKS



AUGUST

Blank area for August notes and tasks.

SEPTEMBER

Blank area for September notes and tasks.

OCTOBER

Blank area for October notes and tasks.

NOVEMBER

Blank area for November notes and tasks.

DECEMBER

Blank area for December notes and tasks.



Garden Calendar



MONTH | YEAR

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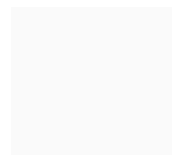
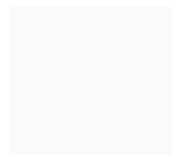
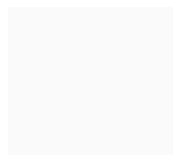
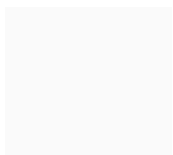
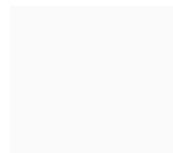
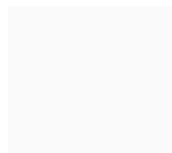
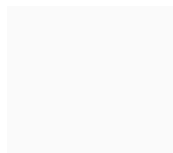
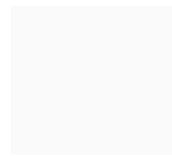
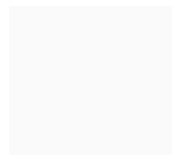
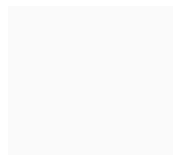
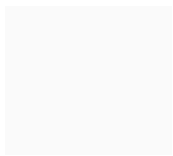
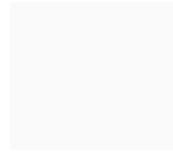
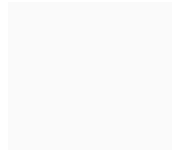
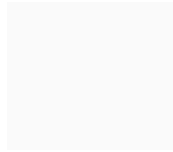
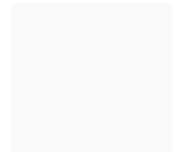
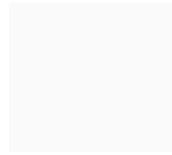
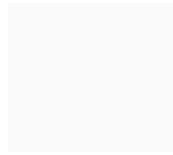
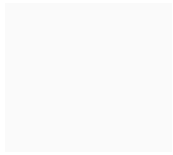
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NOTES





FALL GARDEN PLANNER



IMPORTANT TASKS

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PLANT TRACKER

NOTES



FALL GARDEN DESIGN



OBSERVATIONS:

Yellow sticky note area for observations.

Plan:

Four horizontal red lines for planning.

Prepare & Maintain:

Seven horizontal red lines for preparation and maintenance notes.

Large grid area for detailed notes or diagrams.

Plant:

Four horizontal red lines for planting notes.

Harvest:

Four horizontal red lines for harvesting notes.

Yellow sticky note area for additional notes.

SOW & PLANT BY ZONE

INDOORS

Grey rectangular area for indoor sowing and planting notes.

HARVEST BY ZONE



Organic Gardening:

Resources:

[How to Find Your Planting Zone](#)
[When & How to Test Your Soil](#)
[How to Tell If Your Soil is Good: 8 Tests](#)
[Best Ways to Plant to Get a Great Garden](#)

[Fall Garden Planning](#)
[Fall Vegetable Ideas](#)
[Fall Plants to Grow](#)
[Fall Garden Veggies](#)

[Bulbs to Plant in Fall](#)
[Fall Mums](#)
[Fall Flowers for Pollinators](#)

[Using Fall Leaves In Your Garden](#)
[Fall & Winter Mulching Benefits](#)
[How to Store Potting Soil Over Winter](#)
[How To Fertilize Your Fall Lawn](#)

[Ideas for Your Excess Harvest](#)
[Ways to Extend Your Gardening Season](#)
[7 Steps to Protect Your Plants From Frost](#)

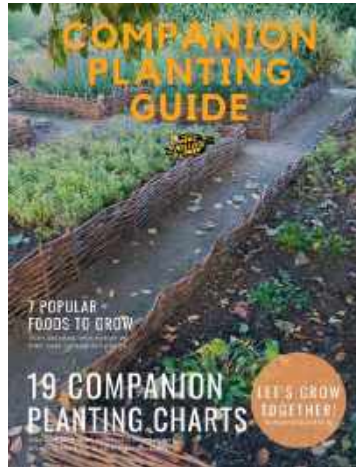


Social Media:

[Instagram](#)
[Youtube](#)
[Facebook](#)
[Organic Garden Nation](#)
[Facebook Group](#)



Organic Gardening: Gardening Guides:



Guides for Children:



Kellogg Garden Organics

Kellogg Garden Products, family-owned and operated since its establishment in 1925 by our founder, H. Clay Kellogg, now spans four generations. The company continues its success as a steadfast business, guided by Mr. Kellogg's original core values: innovation, loyalty, experience, commitment, and generosity.

These values have led our company to seek the highest level of organic rigor in all its branded products.

In 2012, Kellogg Garden Products committed to strictly follow the USDA's National Organic Program (NOP) guidelines for manufacturing all Kellogg Garden Organics and G&B Organics branded soils and fertilizers.

Every ingredient and every process used to produce our branded products has been verified 100% compliant as organic, all the way back to the source, meeting all federal guidelines.



All our branded products are approved by the California Department of Food and Agriculture's stringent Organic Input Materials (OIM) program, as well as the Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI) – the leading independent review agency accredited by the USDA NOP.

Kellogg is still the first and only manufacturer to have all our branded organic soils and fertilizers OIM approved and OMRI Listed, making Kellogg the first to offer Proven Organic soils and fertilizers that build life in the soil. Since 1925, we continue to strive to be the leading organic source helping people grow beautiful and healthy gardens – organically.





Product Recommendations



ORGANIC SOIL



ORGANIC LIQUID FERTILIZER



ORGANIC GRANULAR FERTILIZER

**G&B Organics Only Available in the Western United States

