

# MONTHLY Organic Garden Guide

BY GARDEN ZONE

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By Kellogg Garden Organics

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# Garden: January

*Having a garden is like having a good and loyal friend. ~ Lucy Douglas*

**A**lthough the pace is slower and the demands are fewer, January is a pivotal month for planning and preparing for the garden to come. It's full of possibilities, and isn't that the most exciting part of gardening?

**Plan** – January is seed catalog month! Pour over new catalogs that arrive in the mail, make a list of new seeds, and place your order. Inventory your existing seeds, and compost any that are too old to sow. Make a master plan of your garden. Plan for your new garden spaces. Observe the changing light patterns that winter brings.

- [Top 3 Raised Garden Bed Designs](#)
- [Organic Gardening Raised Bed Materials](#)
- [Container Gardening Tips Tricks and Ideas](#)



**Prepare/Maintain** – Take stock of all your garden tools – make necessary repairs, sharpen blades, and oil moving parts. Clean and organize your seed starting supplies, and be sure you have enough seed-starter mix on hand for when your seeds arrive. Use a lightweight row cover to [protects crops](#), and be at the ready to cover tender garden plants in case of freeze.



### SOW & PLANT OUTDOORS

While colder zones may not be able to actively plant outdoors during January, milder climates still have the go-ahead.

**Zones 7-10** can plant asparagus crowns and strawberry transplants, and set out transplants of broccoli, cabbage, spinach, lettuce, dill, parsley, cilantro, and chervil. Direct sow seeds of arugula, beets, bok choy, carrots, fennel, radishes, turnips, and peas.

**Zones 9-10** can purchase seed potatoes and pre-sprout them for spring planting.

### SOW & PLANT INDOORS

All zones can enjoy indoor houseplant gardening by planting microgreens on their kitchen counter top to enjoy in winter salads.

**Zones 5-6** may start seeds of cauliflower, cabbage, leeks, and onions. Zone 6 can start seeds of pansies, snapdragons, dusty miller, begonias, and delphiniums.

**Zones 7-8** can start cauliflower, cabbage, kale, onions, broccoli, and lettuce seeds.

**Zones 9-10** can start seeds for everything Zones 7-8 can, as well as spinach, broccoli, peas, beets, and carrots.

### HARVEST BY ZONE

**Zones 4-6** can dig parsnips left in the ground over winter.

**Zones 7-10** can harvest loads of greens and veggies including broccoli, arugula, cabbage, Brussels sprouts, cauliflower, collards, fennel, spinach, Swiss chard, radishes, leeks, kale, green onions, and mustard.





OBSERVATIONS:

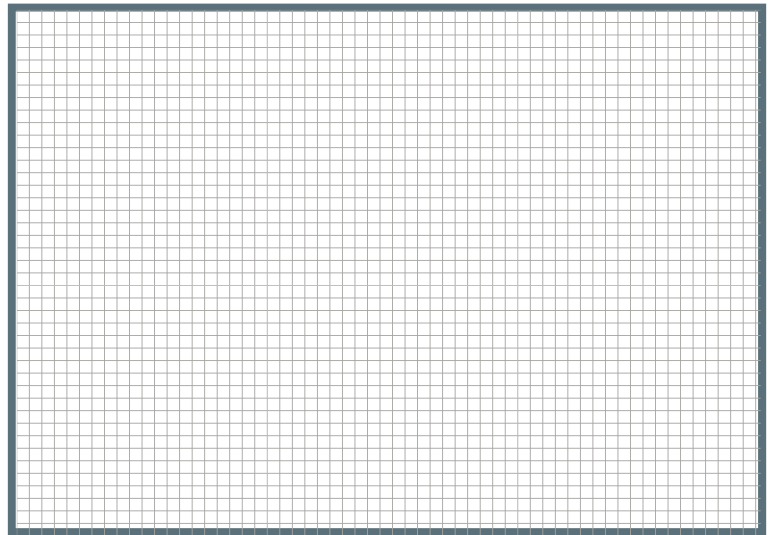


Plan:

Four horizontal red lines for planning.

Prepare & Maintain:

Seven horizontal red lines for preparing and maintaining the garden.



Plant:

Four horizontal red lines for listing plants to be added.

Harvest:

Four horizontal red lines for listing items to be harvested.



SQUARE FOOT PLAN



## Garden: February

*A garden is a grand teacher. It teaches patience and careful watchfulness; it teaches industry and thrift; above all it teaches entire trust. ~ Gertrude Jekyll*

**N**o matter where you might live, February is still winter. In milder climates, things start to warm up in March while other climates take until April or even May, but in February, most gardeners are still tapping their fingers. But we know this is not time to be wasted – good gardens start with good planning, and February gives you lots of time to do that. So let's roll up our sleeves and get at it!

**Plan** – Continue plans for this year's garden – new plants to try, seeds to sow, and tools to trial. Speaking garden plans, February is a great month to look at your soil

- [What Your Weeds Tell You About Your Garden Soil](#)
- [The Importance of Garden Worms](#)
- [7 Reasons to Use Worm Poop in Your Garden](#)



**Prepare/Maintain** – Remember to monitor the weather and water in your plants thoroughly before a hard freeze. Ensure your plants have an adequate layer of [mulch](#) to protect them. Prune, feed, and mulch your roses. Prune fruit trees and spray for any noticeable pest or disease issues. Clean up birdhouses before they're in demand again.



### SOW & PLANT OUTDOORS

**Zones 7-8** can plant lettuce, cabbage, and onions. Seeds of radish, lettuce, beets, turnips, and spinach can be directly sown outdoors. Remember to stagger your plantings with new plants every two weeks to prolong your harvest! Any seeds started indoors can be transplanted outside. Plant potatoes in trenches.

**Zone 10** can begin planting corn, cucumbers, melons, squash, beans, peppers, and tomatoes – just be prepared to cover them in the event of a late frost.

### SOW & PLANT INDOORS

**Zones 5-6** can start seeds of broccoli, cabbage, beets, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, onions, leeks, and spinach.

**Zones 7-8** can start eggplant, peppers, and tomato seeds.

### HARVEST BY ZONE

Colder climates won't be harvesting this month.

**Zones 7-10** can continue to harvest a wide range of veggies including arugula, beets, leeks, parsnips, chard, carrots, chives, fennel, chervil, kale, lettuce, onions, spinach, and sorrel.





OBSERVATIONS:

Plan:

Four horizontal red lines for planning.

Prepare & Maintain:

Seven horizontal red lines for preparation and maintenance notes.



Plant:

Four horizontal red lines for planting notes.

Harvest:

Four horizontal red lines for harvest notes.



GARDEN TIP:

The health of any individual plant or garden as a whole is only as good as the soil it's planted in, so for us, it all starts with good soil. "That's great," you might say, "but how do I know if my soil is healthy?" Well, lots of different ways, but one tried-and-true method is the soil test.

## Garden: March

*A weed is a plant that has mastered every survival skill except for learning how to grow in rows. ~ Doug Larson*

**G**arden die-hards are happy when March rolls around, especially in the more mild climates. Trees are budding out, birds are chirping, and everywhere around there are signs of new life. Little wonder that Spring is the favorite season of so many people. And those of you in colder climates – we haven't forgotten about you! We realize it's not your high garden month, but you can console yourself with the fact that your time is drawing near.

**Plan** – March can be a month with unpredictable weather – remember to record significant weather events in your garden journal. Make a list of new plants to include this year for our pollinator friends – milkweed for monarchs, dill and fennel for swallowtails, and rosemary, basil, parsley, cilantro, and dill blooms for bees.

**Prepare/Maintain** – Begin monitoring plants for pest and disease issues. Control weeds, particularly in areas where the weather is warming up. Refresh mulch as necessary, and add [soil amendments](#) and [compost](#) if needed.

**Spring Lawn Care - Aerate.** Aeration is a process by which small plugs of soil are removed so that air, water, and nutrients get where they need to go. Over time and with lots of traffic, soil becomes hard and compressed, and thatch builds up. Aeration addresses this problem.

The best time to aerate is in the spring as things start heating up – aerate cool season grasses like Kentucky bluegrass and tall fescue in early Spring, and warm season grasses like Bermuda grass and St. Augustine in late Spring.



## ORGANIC BUILDS LIFE

### SOW & PLANT INDOORS

#### ZONE 3

If you have flowering shrubs, go ahead and prune them unless they are spring-flowering. Water any shrubs you have near the foundation of your house if the soil there is dry. Bring out your stored bulbs (tuberous begonias, calla lilies, dahlias, cannas) and place them near a light source. Start seeds of cabbage, cauliflower, marigolds, onions, tomatoes, Brussels sprouts, and asters indoors under grow lights.

#### ZONES 6-8

Start seeds for beets, cabbage, carrots, kale, lettuce, onions, peppers, spinach, tomatoes and beans.

#### ZONES 9-10

Start seeds for Brussels sprouts, okra, watermelons and squash.



## SOW & PLANT OUTDOORS

**ZONE 6** This is a perfect month to plant roses, trees, and shrubs if you're enjoying mild weather. Move cauliflower and broccoli transplants outdoors to a cold frame.

**ZONES 7-8** Begin planting beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, kale, spinach, turnips and corn. Heat-loving Swiss chard can also go in at the middle of the month. Plant daisies, marigolds, petunias, and snapdragons for early season color. Got any cool season crops left to plant? Get them into the garden now – if you dawdle, the heat will do them in.

**S**et out your favorite herbs into the garden, but wait a bit longer to plant basil.

**F**ertilize your lawn at the end of the month.



**ZONES 9-10** Continue to plant all the same plants as Zone 8 with the addition of beans, cucumbers, okra, sweet potatoes, eggplant, squash, tomatoes and peppers. If you started seeds of peppers, tomatoes, and eggplants last month, harden them off by moving them outside. Be prepared to cover them or put them inside a cold frame, and plant them in the garden when all danger of frost has passed. Add compost to the soil around established trees and shrubs, as well as around new plants.

**T**ake a look at your citrus trees, and carefully prune off any frost-damaged parts.

## HARVEST BY ZONE

**ZONES 9-10** Continue to harvest broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, onions, radish, turnips, lettuce, peas, and spinach as they become ready.

**T**his is planting month for you lucky gardeners!



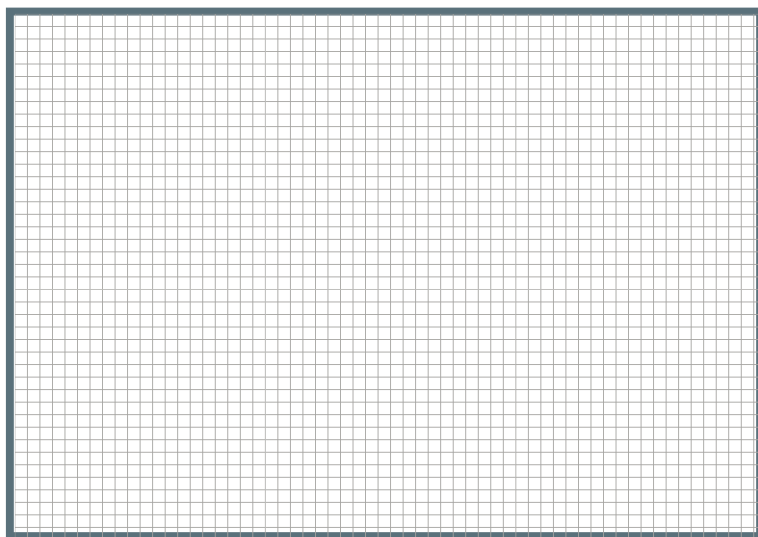
OBSERVATIONS:

Plan:

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Prepare & Maintain:

Seven horizontal red lines for preparation and maintenance notes.



Plant:

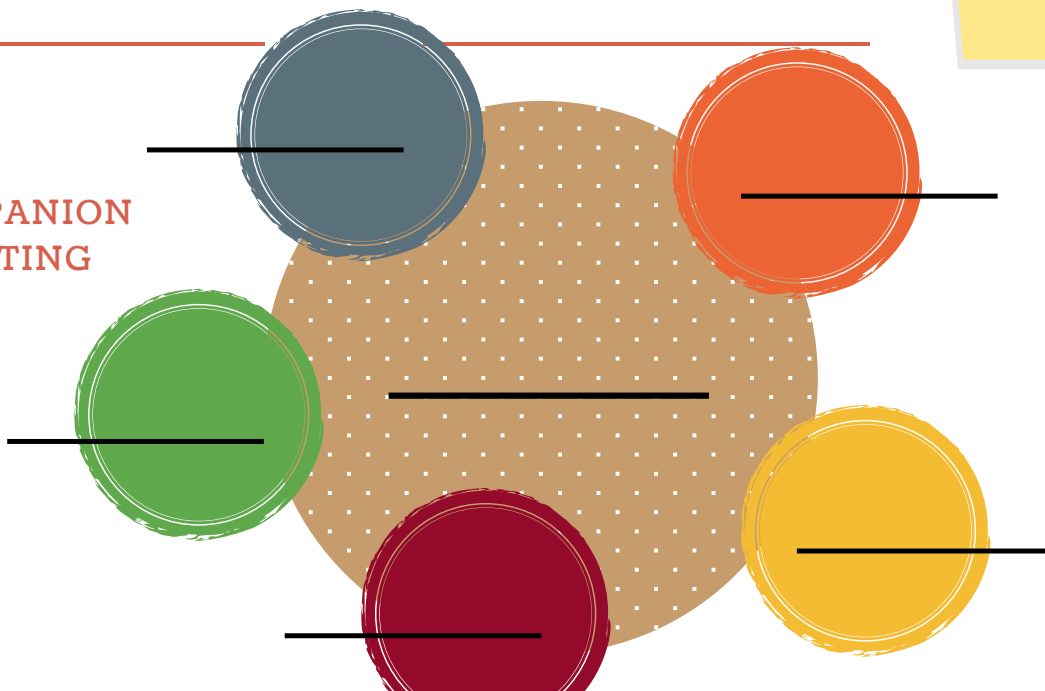
Four horizontal red lines for planting notes.

Harvest:

Four horizontal red lines for harvest notes.

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COMPANION PLANTING





## Garden: April

**S**pring is finally here! Even though you might live in an area that's still a bit chilly, there's no doubt that the garden is answering its annual wake-up call. Many gardeners call this their favorite season of the year — it's thrilling to see little seedlings emerging, green leaves pushing their way out, and the first signs of color. This is often a very busy month, so let's organize our garden goals to keep on track.

**Plan** – Even though April is a big action month, successful gardens are always in the planning stage. As your garden is waking up, so are the insects that inhabit it. Plan to take a daily tour of your garden to be on the lookout for pesky creatures, and be prepared to take action if necessary. Pill bugs, slugs, and snails cause lots of problems, so have your traps and baits at the ready. Continue to update your garden journal with observations, weather notes, and planting times.

**Prepare/Maintain** – If you planted winter [cover crops](#), cut them down and turn them into the soil two weeks before planting. Turn your compost pile, start a new one, and add [compost](#) around your plants. Fertilize veggies with an [organic foliar feed](#) to keep them healthy.



**Pests** – Be on the lookout for garden pests and diseases. Aphids, beetles, thrips, and cutworms can do quite a bit of damage seemingly overnight at this time of the year. It's good to do a garden inspection every couple of days to identify any possible problems. Remember to look under leaves, along stems, at the base of the plant, and where new growth is emerging — these are all favorite hiding places for damaging insects.



### SOW & PLANT OUTDOORS

**Zones 5-6** can transplant tomatoes outside, but be prepared to cover them in the event of a cold snap. Sow lettuce, carrots, spinach, radishes, beets, and turnips. Repeat plantings every two weeks to ensure a continual harvest.

**Zones 7-8** can plant cantaloupe, cucumber, eggplant, okra, peppers, squash and tomatoes if you haven't already.

**Zones 9-10** can plant everything in Zones 7-8 as well as directly sowing pumpkins and sweet potatoes.

### HARVEST

**Zone 4** can harvest beets, collards, kale, spinach, and lettuce.

**Zones 5-6** can enjoy arugula, spinach, radishes, lettuce, carrots, and kohlrabi.

**Zones 7-10** can harvest squash, beets, broccoli, carrots, eggplant, greens, onions, peas, radishes, and turnips as they become ready.

### SOW & PLANT INDOORS

Because spring is here, much of our indoor seeding is complete.

**However, if you live in chilly Zone 4 & 5** you can start seeds for tomatoes, broccoli, beets, Brussels sprouts, sweet potatoes, peppers, peas, and carrots.



OBSERVATIONS:

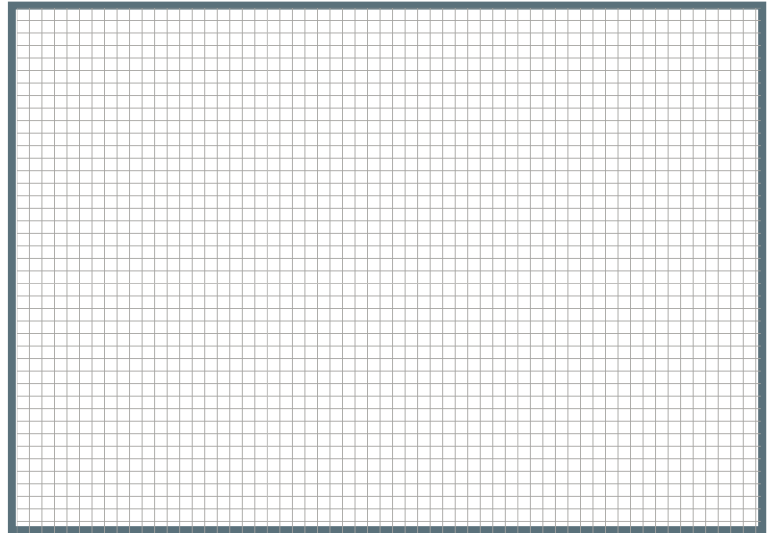
Yellow sticky note area for observations.

Plan:

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Prepare & Maintain:

Seven horizontal red lines for preparation and maintenance notes.



Plant:

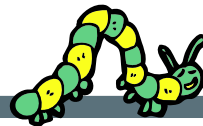
Four horizontal red lines for planting notes.

Harvest:

Four horizontal red lines for harvest notes.

Yellow sticky note area for additional notes.

PEST PATROL



# Garden: May

*I am a Gardener. What's Your Super Power?*

It's safe to say that even for the northernmost planting zones, spring is here! May is a busy month in the garden, and it's also a thrilling one. Morning strolls through the garden reveal new seedlings popping up, flowers unfolding, and some veggies ripening. While it's tempting to plant everything at the first sign of a warm day, May has a tendency to bring unexpected weather that can damage your garden. Late cold snaps, heavy rains, and strong winds are all still possible, so be prepared to protect your garden from inclement weather.

**Plan** – If you kept up with your late winter/early spring chores and planning, May should be a little easier. Still, it's worth noting in your garden journal any successes you've experienced with your plantings. Is there something that you might have planted sooner (or later) than you did? What pests are you observing in the garden so far? How much rain are you getting?

**Prepare/Maintain** – Keep up with your weeding chores – May can be a doozy! Reapply mulch if you see any bare spots on the soil surface. Be sure your irrigation system continues to operate efficiently as the growing season heats up. If you live in an area with watering restrictions or guidelines, make sure your watering schedule honors that. [Feed fruit trees](#), and thin fruit to every 6" while the fruit is still small.

**Pollinators** – Make sure you [plant for the monarchs](#). While they drink nectar from a variety of flowers, Monarch butterflies only eat milkweed, so it's vital to plant a wide range of native nectar plants as well as native milkweed (*Asclepias* spp.).





## SOW & PLANT OUTDOORS

**Zones 3-4** can plant transplants of beans, tomatoes, peas, kale, melons, potatoes, and pumpkin. They can directly sow seeds of kale and lettuce. When soil temperatures reach 60 degrees, Zone 4 gardeners can begin planting peppers and eggplant transplants.

**Zones 5-6** can direct sow seeds of squash, lettuce, melons, cucumber, corn, and tomatoes.

**Zones 7-8** can transplant beans, Brussels sprouts, corn, cabbage, peppers, cucumber, and squash.

**Zones 9-10** can transplant Brussels sprouts, melons, okra, and squash if you haven't already.



## SOW & PLANT INDOORS

**Zones 3-4** may start seeds of Brussels sprouts, kale, lettuce, pears, peppers, and spinach under grow lights.

**Zones 5-7** can start seeds of beans, corn, pumpkin, cucumber, onion, and squash.

All other zones continue with outdoor planting and sowing.

## HARVEST

**Zones 6-7** can harvest peas, beets, carrots, broccoli, cauliflower, kale, spinach, and lettuce.

**Zone 8** can harvest beets, carrots, broccoli, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, peas, and spinach.

**Zones 9-10** can harvest beans, garlic, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, corn, cucumber, onions, potatoes, radish, squash, peppers, and tomatoes.





OBSERVATIONS:

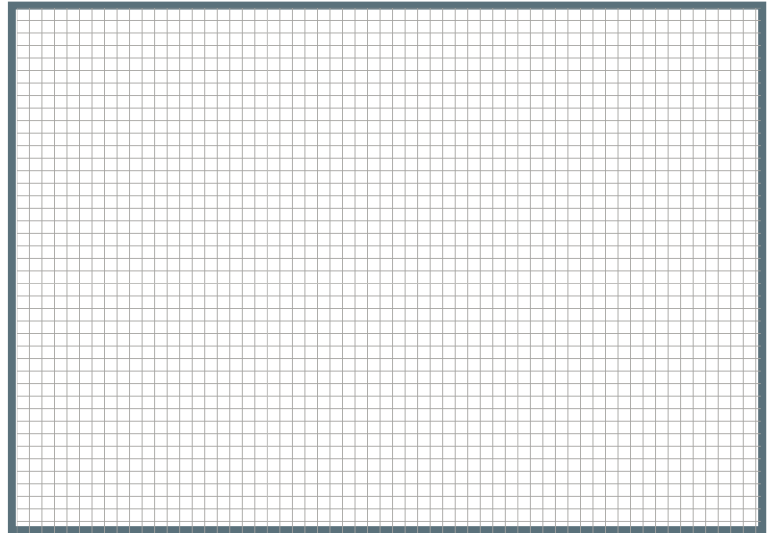
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Prepare & Maintain:

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Plant:

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Harvest:

Four horizontal red lines for harvest notes.



FALL GARDEN PLAN

A large empty rectangular box with a dark blue border for the fall garden plan.

## Garden: June

*I like gardening - it's a place where I find myself when I need to lose myself. ~Alice Sebold*

**J**une 21 is the official first day of summer, but for many gardeners, it's full-on heat already! By now, you've likely planted much of your warm season garden, but planting and garden chores continue this month in spite of the heat or humidity. Follow this checklist to stay current with your June garden chores, always remembering to consult your local garden experts on the best times to plant.

**Plan** – Remember last year when you had so many zucchini, tomatoes, and figs that you didn't know what to do with them? Make a plan now for creative ways to use your surplus harvest so it doesn't go to waste.

- [How to Safely Preserve Your Organic Harvest](#)
- [Fun Foods to Ferment](#)

Have a [watering plan](#) in place to ensure your garden gets adequate irrigation when rainfall levels are low and temps are high.



**Prepare/Maintain** – From planting, watering, weeding, and even harvesting, June keeps a gardener busy. It's good to set goals for your garden.

Provide [support structures](#) or cages for peas, cucumbers, beans, or tomatoes. Be on the lookout for garden [pests](#) like stinkbugs, grasshoppers, snails/slugs, and caterpillars – they can do enormous damage overnight. Make sure all planted beds (both edible and ornamental) are adequately [mulched](#) to suppress weeds and preserve soil moisture.

## SOW & PLANT OUTDOORS

**Zone 4:** Harden off tomato, pepper, and eggplant transplants and get them out into the garden. Go ahead and directly sow seeds of squash, sweet potatoes, rutabagas, okra, cucumbers, beets, corn, leaf lettuce, and lima beans into the garden as well. Plant container roses, shrubs, trees, as well as warm-season annuals and heat-loving herbs.

**Zones 5-6:** Direct sow seeds of bush beans, pole beans, cucumbers, squash, and melons. You can also direct sow kale, salad greens (only heat-tolerant varieties), carrots, beets, and radishes. Get tomatoes, eggplant, and peppers in the ground, too, as well as warm season annuals.

**Zones 7-8:** Continue succession planting pole beans, bush beans, winter squash, okra, black-eyed peas, and Malabar spinach. Most herbs can still be planted, as well as warm season annuals. If you're planting perennials, be sure to give them plenty of regular water to get established, and avoid planting during heat waves when your plants can get stressed.

**Pests** – From planting, watering, weeding, and even harvesting, June keeps a gardener busy. The only problem is, the bugs and pests are also busy – they love a thriving garden as much as you do! Luckily there are [natural ways to get rid of destructive pests and insects](#). As always, cultivating strong and healthy plants goes a long way to deterring unwanted and damaging garden pests – start with [healthy soil](#) and ensure adequate sunlight and water. Next purchasing and [attracting the good bugs for organic pest control](#) will also help you win the bug battle.

## SOW & PLANT INDOORS

**Zones 7-10:** Get ready for fall gardening by starting seeds of tomatoes, peppers, and eggplant.

## HARVEST

**Zones 4-6:** Harvest beets, turnips, kale, lettuce, cauliflower, broccoli, and asparagus.

**Zones 7-10:** Harvest beets, squash, Malabar spinach, corn, beans, cucumbers, tomatoes, peppers, potatoes, and eggplant.



OBSERVATIONS:

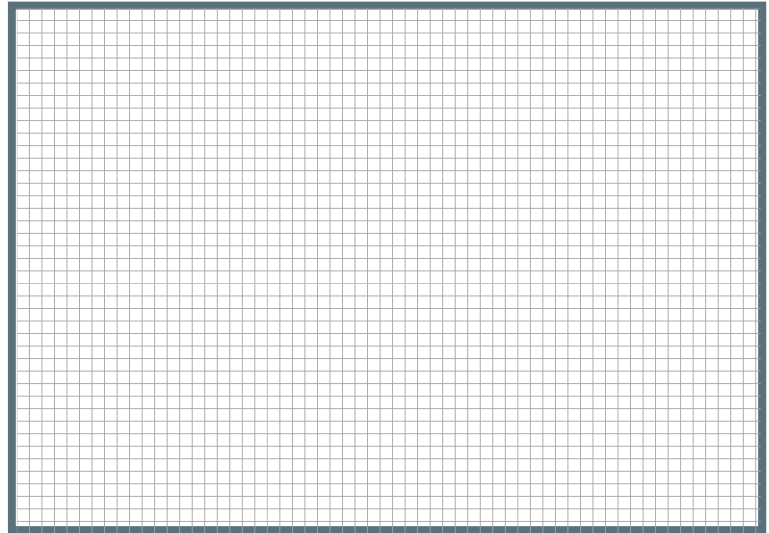
Yellow sticky note area for observations.

Plan:

Four horizontal red lines for planning.

Prepare & Maintain:

Seven horizontal red lines for preparation and maintenance notes.



Plant:

Four horizontal red lines for planting notes.

Harvest:

Four horizontal red lines for harvest notes.



DON'T FORGET:

Make notes about fruits and veggies that are super tasty, as well as the annuals that are thriving or bugs that are munching. You only think you'll remember, and we don't want you kicking yourself later.

## Garden: July

**W**hile June temps can still be on the cooler side in some of the milder climates, July is the great equalizer. No matter where you live, July's strong sun and high temperatures make gardening a bit of a challenge for both the garden and the gardener alike. But no worries – we've got a July garden checklist to keep you cool and on track!

**Plan** – Remember the garden journal we talked about? Now's the time to use it – record what you planted and where, how things are growing, and any unusual pests, diseases, or weather issues that you notice. Take photos to keep the details fresh, and jot down notes for the fall garden.

**Prepare/Maintain** – Continue to stay on top of weeds so they don't take over your veggies or flowers. Water deeply but less frequently to avoid stressing your plants, and water earlier in the morning to give everything a better chance to withstand the afternoon heat.

- [Summer Lawn Watering Tips](#)
- [Shading Plants From Summer Heat](#)



Get your container plantings and annual flowers on a regular [fertilizing](#) schedule using organic materials. Remove and dispose of any dead or diseased plants, [mulch](#) or use [cover crops](#) to protect soil surfaces, and [collect seeds](#) from plants that are doing well. You'll be happy next year that you did!





### SOW & PLANT OUTDOORS

Most zones can plant almost anything right now, from veggies and fruits to perennials and annuals. If you live in areas of high heat, avoid planting trees and large shrubs during this time, however – the soaring temps will stress them too much while they are getting established.

**Zone 4** can set out transplants of broccoli, cauliflower, and cabbage as well as a second crop of green beans and summer squash. Seeds of kale and Asian greens can be sown for fall harvest.

**Zones 5-6** can plant cilantro, bush beans, and summer squash, as well as carrots, kale, beets, and chard for fall harvest.

**Zones 7-8** can start more tomatoes, peppers, and eggplant for late summer harvest, and beans, squash, turnips, beets, carrots, and lettuce for the fall.

### SOW & PLANT INDOORS

While most of our garden activity focuses outdoors, there are still indoor garden chores to do, particularly if you are planning ahead for your fall garden.

**Zones 4-6** may pre-sprout peas (snow and sugar snap) and start seeds for broccoli, carrots, spinach, lettuce, kale, and beets.

**Zone 7** can start seeds for cabbage.

**Zones 9-10:** can start seeds for peppers, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, and tomatoes for the fall season.

### HARVEST BY ZONE

**Zones 4-5:** Continue to harvest lettuce, spinach, beets, and carrots when they are ready.

**Zones 6-7:** Harvest lettuce, onions, cabbage, and tomatoes at the end of the month.

**Zones 8-10:** Harvest squash, cucumbers, melons, and tomatoes at the end of the month.



OBSERVATIONS:

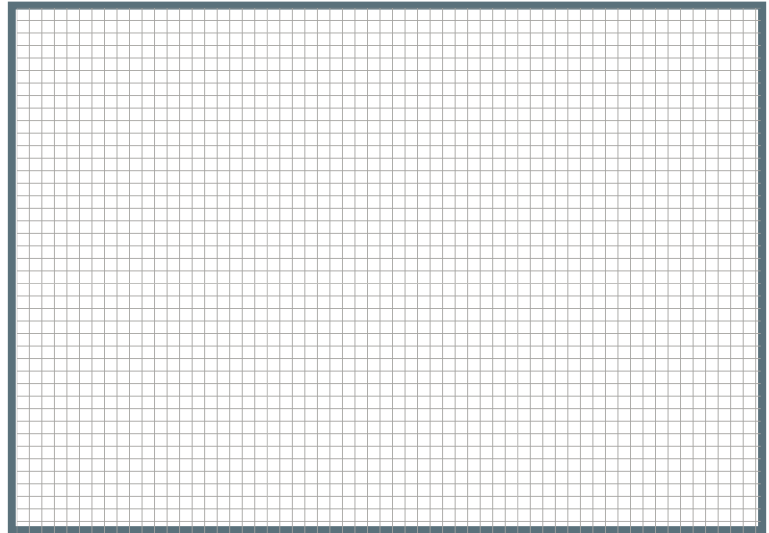
Yellow sticky note area for observations.

Plan:

Four horizontal red lines for planning.

Prepare & Maintain:

Seven horizontal red lines for preparation and maintenance notes.



Plant:

Four horizontal red lines for plant identification.

Harvest:

Four horizontal red lines for harvest information.

Yellow sticky note area for additional notes.

PLANT PROTECTION: HEAT, WATER, DISEASE



A large empty rectangular box with a dark blue border for additional notes or drawings.

# Garden: August

*The love of gardening is a seed once sown that never dies ~ Gertrude Jekyll*

**C**ome August, many gardens and gardeners are just bone weary. The summer heat has taken its toll, and in some of the warmer climates, August is the hottest month of the year. To combat the late summer blues, stay strong and start planning for your fall garden – just the thought of cooler weather is often enough to help me hang in there.

**Plan** – continue updating your garden journal, making notes about heat, temperatures, humidity, and rainfall. Have shadecloth on hand to give your summer veggies a bit of a break from the strong sun – my peppers, in particular, appreciate this gesture. Begin planning for your fall garden – what to plant, and where and when to plant it. Order your garlic for fall planting.

**Prepare/Maintain** – Remove flowers on pumpkin vines and tomato plants to direct the plant's energy into growing the existing fruit.

Prune tomatoes, peppers, and eggplant to encourage new growth. Your peppers, tomatoes, squash, and eggplant may even appreciate a bit of [fertilizer](#) to catch their second wind. Cut basil back to keep it from going to seed.

Remove dead or dying plants – it's not worth the extra effort to keep them alive this late in the summer. Cooler climates should watch the forecast for early frosts – be prepared to [protect plants from damage](#).

Warmer climates can continue planting and harvesting. All climates can [save seeds](#) from the best and healthiest plants in the garden.





### SOW & PLANT INDOORS

**Zone 6** can start carrots, kale, lettuce, and peas.

### SOW & PLANT OUTDOORS

**Zone 4** can plant any remaining beets, broccoli and carrots as well as fast-growing cool weather lettuces and spinach in cold frames.

**Zones 5-6** can plant any remaining beans, beets, broccoli, cabbage, Brussels sprouts, carrots, and spinach.

**Zones 7-8** can sow seeds of corn, cucumbers, squash, and dill in the garden. Set out transplants of tomatoes, peppers, basil, and eggplant for fall harvest. Transplant any indoor seedlings of broccoli, cauliflower, collards, chard, and cabbage into the garden, but be prepared to cover them with shade cloth if temps get above 90 degrees.

### HARVEST

**Zones 4-5** can harvest lettuce, spinach, squash, carrots, cucumbers, and beans.

**Zones 6-7** can harvest Brussels sprouts, celery, tomatoes, squash, potatoes, cucumbers, corn, and beans.

**Zones 8-10** can harvest celery, sweet potatoes, potatoes, tomatoes, eggplants, peppers, corn, and beans.

### LAWNS & LANDSCAPES

**Zones 9-11** remove dead, damaged, or diseased wood on trees as soon as you observe it, but save major pruning for the dormant season. Raise the height of your mower blade to 1" – 1 ½" to help your lawn thrive in the late summer heat.



OBSERVATIONS:

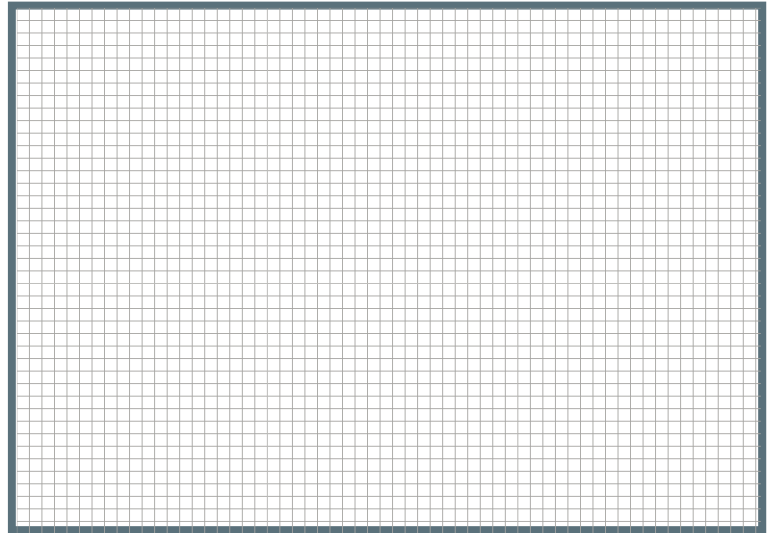
Yellow sticky note area for observations.

Plan:

Four horizontal red lines for planning.

Prepare & Maintain:

Seven horizontal red lines for preparation and maintenance notes.



Plant:

Four horizontal red lines for planting notes.

Harvest:

Four horizontal red lines for harvest notes.



FALL GARDEN PLAN

3x4 grid for fall garden plan.

3x5 grid for fall garden plan.



# Garden: September

*There are no gardening mistakes, only experiments. ~Janet Kilburn Phillips*

**A**h, September! The kids are back to school, the mornings are getting crisper, and there's a sense of fall in the air. For those living in warmer climates, that sense of fall might just be in your head, but we'll take what we can get, right? There's something about the promise of this change of season that is both relaxing and exciting – but let's not get ahead of ourselves, because there's still plenty to do if you follow our September Garden Checklist!

**Plan** – With summer's end in sight, be sure to complete all your notes about your summer garden in your journal. What new plant surprised you? What would you plant more of next year? Any do-overs on your list? How was the weather, and how did it impact your garden?

**Prepare/Maintain** – No matter your zone, September is a prep month for almost every gardener.

Harvest your vegetable garden before danger of frost or freeze, or to make room for your fall plantings. Put spent leaves and plants (veggies, perennial clippings, annual flowers) into your compost pile. Gather herbs for drying or freezing, and collect valuable seeds for next year. Use winter rye as a cover crop in colder climates.

**Warmer Zones 7-10** will need to continue shading your soil until the temperatures start to drop in earnest.

**Fall Lawn Care Tip** – 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.

- [Fertilizing Your Fall Lawn In 6 Steps](#)
- [Prepare Your Winter Lawn In 5 Steps](#)





### SOW & PLANT OUTDOORS

**Zones 4-6** can plant garlic and shallots, as well as spinach either under row covers or in cold frames.

**Zones 7-10** can plant greens, beets, turnips, radishes, lettuce, broccoli, cauliflower, kale, and bok choy.

**Zone 10** still has time for a last round of squash, cucumbers, and okra, final plantings of tomatoes and peppers, and cool season greens.

### SOW & PLANT INDOORS

**Zones 7-10** can still plant outdoors, but it's also fun to get a head start on anything you'd like to plant for the cooler months. Start seeds of cool season annuals, greens, broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, beets, and radishes.

### HARVEST BY ZONE

**Zone 4** can harvest turnips, parsnips, apples, carrots, greens, beets, pears, and persimmons.

**Zones 5-10** can harvest pretty much everything from basil, beans, beets, cucumbers, and eggplant to greens, peppers, squash, tomatoes, and sweet potatoes.



OBSERVATIONS:

Plan:

Four horizontal red lines for planning.

Prepare & Maintain:

Seven horizontal red lines for preparation and maintenance notes.



Plant:

Four horizontal red lines for planting notes.

Harvest:

Four horizontal red lines for harvest notes.

A yellow sticky note graphic.

GARDEN CLEAN UP:

A large empty rectangular box for garden cleanup notes.



# Garden: October

*The glory of gardening: hands in the dirt, head in the sun, heart with nature. ~ Alfred Austin*

It's October, and I don't care where you live, it's fall. In my area of the country we might still be experiencing 80+ degrees, but hey, the mornings are cooler, right? And those cooler mornings make gardening even more enjoyable – which is perfect timing, as October is a huge garden month. So grab your Pumpkin Spice latte and go get some gardening done!

**Plan** – Now's the time to take a final inventory of this year's garden. Did you plant too much of something? Was a new variety a winner for you? What bombed? Why did it bomb? What veggie did your family absolutely love? Make notes in your garden journal and refer to them next year.

**Prepare/Maintain** – Collect leaves for composting and mulching – ask your neighbors for theirs! Take a garden inventory and notice where your soil is bare; you'll want to cover that up with mulch to avoid winter weeds from germinating. If you sowed seeds of carrots, beets, greens, or lettuce last month, go ahead and thin them out now. Gardeners in cooler climates can mulch strawberries and asparagus.

**Pests** – While we tend to think of springtime as the busiest season for pesky bug activity, the fall brings its own set of [garden-damaging creatures](#). That's because many insects are seeking new homes for the colder months, so they are actively moving around your garden in the few months leading up to them. The [lawn damage](#) you see in the spring from grubs actually happened in the fall of the previous year, so let's crack down on these infamous pests now.





### SOW & PLANT OUTDOORS

**Zones 4-6** can plant garlic and shallots, as well as spinach and parsnips in a cold frame.

**Zones 7-10** can plant garlic, leeks, onions, and shallots. They can also sow seeds of beets, carrots, mustard, turnips, spinach, lettuce, Chinese cabbage, radishes, and bok choy. Set out strawberry plants. Plant trees and shrubs.

### HARVEST

**Zones 4-7** can harvest and enjoy spinach, lettuce, parsnips, kale, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, and carrots. These gardeners can also begin digging sweet potatoes (time it as the leaves start to fall) and harvest winter squash.

**Zones 7-10** can continue to harvest squash, late season tomatoes, peppers, radishes, broccoli, beans, bok choy, eggplant, kale, and lettuce.

### SOW & PLANT INDOORS

**Zones 7-10** can sow cool weather veggie seeds for transplanting.





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.



Plant:

Four horizontal red lines for planting notes.

Harvest:

Four horizontal red lines for harvest notes.

Yellow sticky note area for additional notes.

GARDEN CHORES:

Large empty rectangular box for garden chores, with a small illustration of garden tools (trowel, fork, trowel, flower) in the bottom right corner.

## Garden: November

*If you've never experienced the joy of accomplishing more than you can imagine, plant a garden.*

~ Robert Brault

**F**or some parts of the country, November signals the end of the garden season while in other parts, gardening is ongoing. Wherever you live, there are some garden tasks that will help your garden remain strong and healthy. Consult this November garden checklist to keep your garden looking its best – and remember, it's always good to consult with your local county extension office or a local trusted garden center for more specific recommendations for your area.

**Plan** – Start [planning next year's garden](#) – It's always a good idea to have a stack of garden books and magazines on hand to inspire you. And don't forget about indoor gardening, as the winter months are an ideal time to focus on creating amazing tablescapes, hanging gardens, and wall planters.



**Prepare/Maintain** – Water thoroughly before a freeze to insulate your plants, have row covers at the ready to protect tender plants, and mulch all exposed soil. Clean, sharpen, and store your garden tools for the winter if you live in a colder climate. Clean up all plant debris to avoid existing pest and disease issues from overwintering in your garden. Turn your compost pile if you have a “hot” pile. If you planted seeds last month (carrots, beets, lettuce, greens), go ahead and thin them now. If you've stored onions, potatoes, and garlic, check them for spoilage.



### SOW & PLANT OUTDOORS

Cooler climates like Zones 5-6 can plant garlic and shallots.

Warmer climates like Zones 9-10 can plant out kale, peas, spinach, broccoli, cauliflower, onions, and any remaining lettuce.

### SOW & PLANT INDOORS

Colder climates like Zones 4-6 can plant parsley and lettuce in pots for an indoor winter garden (place them by a bright window for best results).

### HARVEST

Zones 6-7 can harvest spinach, parsnips, kale, lettuce, broccoli, and carrots.

Zones 8-9 can harvest sweet potatoes, pumpkins, cauliflower, radishes, arugula, bok choy, broccoli, collards, kale, lettuces, and beets.

Zone 10 can harvest beans, carrots, kale, cucumbers, lettuce, and peas.



OBSERVATIONS:

Plan:

Four horizontal red lines for planning.

Prepare & Maintain:

Seven horizontal red lines for preparation and maintenance notes.



Plant:

Four horizontal red lines for planting notes.

Harvest:

Four horizontal red lines for harvest notes.

A yellow sticky note graphic.

SEED NOTES:



A large rectangular box with a dark blue border for seed notes.

# Garden: December

*My garden is my most beautiful masterpiece. – Claude Monet*

**M**uch of our attention this month is on the holidays, not necessarily out in the garden. The days are shorter, and our time seems to be even shorter yet. While we enjoy the holidays and everything it brings, we can still keep our gardening muscles flexed. After all, we're gardeners – a little cold weather and blustery winds won't keep us down, right?

Here's your December garden checklist to stay the course, but remember, your local extension office or trusted garden center will likely have more specific information for your particular area of the country.

**Plan** – Remember the garden journal you started last month? Now's the time to start writing in it! Record first freezes or any significant weather event, create your goals for the coming garden year, and order seeds for sowing. If you live in an area of periodic drought you can also record monthly rainfall levels.

**Prepare/Maintain** – Continue to monitor your stored onions, tomatoes, garlic, and peppers for spoilage. Plant cover crops after the final harvest or plantings, collect leaves for your compost pile, and keep your frost blankets at the ready to protect tender plants. Gardeners in mild climates can begin creating new beds for spring planting.





### SOW & PLANT OUTDOORS

Sadly, colder climates won't be able to plant outdoors.

**Zones 9-10** if the weather permits, go ahead and plant cold-hardy vegetables such as broccoli, celery, kale, eggplant, basil, leaks, and onions.

### SOW & PLANT INDOORS

**All Zones:** Unfortunately, you'll want to wait until January/February to start your seeds for your Spring vegetable garden next year. The good news is you can always use a grow light or sunny windowsill to plant an herb garden with herbs such as oregano, chives, mint, rosemary, or thyme. You could also consider planting indoor microgreens such as spicy mustard, sunflower, or pea.



### HARVEST

**Zones 6-8** can harvest any remaining vegetables in the garden.

**Zones 8-10** can harvest the same, specifically beets, bok choy, broccoli, lettuce, spinach, carrots, cauliflower, kale, pea, and cabbage.



OBSERVATIONS:

Plan:

Four horizontal red lines for planning notes.

Prepare & Maintain:

Seven horizontal red lines for preparation and maintenance notes.



Plant:

Four horizontal red lines for planting notes.

Harvest:

Four horizontal red lines for harvest notes.



GARDEN PLANNING

Sometimes new garden features and ideas need a little time to think through and plan out – not something easily accomplished when you're in the thick of garden season. So sit back, and arm yourself with paper and pencil, garden books and magazines; we're getting it done.

# Kellogg Garden Organics

**K**ellogg 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.

*At Kellogg Garden Products,  
Organic is more than a word on a  
label. Building Life – In the Soil, In  
Waterways, and In Communities  
– is what it means to us.*



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