



Winter Gardening

DECEMBER

- Remove annuals no longer producing. Clean up empty beds.
- Drain and coil hoses; empty and stack cages; and clean garden containers.
- Rake fallen apple and pear leaves to protect against scab. Do not compost infected leaves.
- Test garden soil. For instructions contact Clallam Conservation District (www.clallamcd.org). Based on results, apply lime or sulfur to adjust pH. Do not add other amendments at this time.
- After the first hard frost, add mulch around winter vegetables, strawberry plants, and root crops being stored in the ground.
- Clean, repair, and sharpen garden tools.

JANUARY

- Prune fruit trees and established blueberries while dormant. Do not prune during freezing weather.
- If aphids and mites have been a past problem, apply horticultural oil to fruit trees and blueberry bushes. Do not apply when plants are wet, temps are below 40°, or rain is likely in the next 24 hrs.
- Plan vegetable garden rotation; order seeds.
- Consider building raised beds for easier gardening.

FEBRUARY

- Prune fruit trees and established blueberries while dormant. Do not prune in freezing weather.
- Thin second -year raspberry canes to 3 to 5 canes per square foot. Remove dead or damaged canes.
- Start cool-weather vegetables from seed indoors.
- Sow salad greens under cover for harvest in March.
- Mow or chop cover crops before they set seed. Allow leaves and stems to dry and dig in, if soil is dry enough to be worked.

Vegetables typically harvested in the winter on the North Olympic Peninsula:

Overwintered Crops

- Arugula
- Beets
- Brussels sprouts
- Carrots
- Chard
- Evergreen herbs
- Kale
- Leeks
- Green onions
- Parsley
- Parsnips
- Spinach

For interesting wintertime reading, see WSU's resources for sustainable home gardening at <http://gardening.wsu.edu/>

Plant Clinics Closed for the Season

Submit gardening and plant questions to:

Plant Clinic Helpline: (360) 417-2514

Email: mgplantclinic.clallam@gmail.com



Clallam County

Master Gardener Program

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

2/14/2020