

Fall

(September, October, November)

- Restock bird feeders
- Start new lawn or redo old lawn; Fertilize, water, mow
- Continue deep watering trees, berries and new plants
- Transplant shrubs or trees or plant new from containers or balled-n-burlapped
- Gradually clean out your garden as crops ripen – save your seeds
- Add cover crops or spread compost
- Plant garlic – note where you planted

Before Freeze

- Harvest all tomatoes/ripen indoors
- Harvest fruit as it ripens (except pears) clean up under trees, add protectors or paint trunks to protect from sun scald
- Dig tender bulbs/store indoors
- Plant spring flowering bulbs

After First Frost

- Reduce watering trees * shrubs
- Rebuild compost piles (layer greens & browns from garden & trees)
- Clean and store garden equipment

After Hard Freeze

- Mulch perennials for winter
- Mound roses with soil or mulch
- Tie evergreen branches that are susceptible to breakage from snow



For more information
visit the Master Gardener
Diagnostic Clinic
May through September
Tuesdays 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

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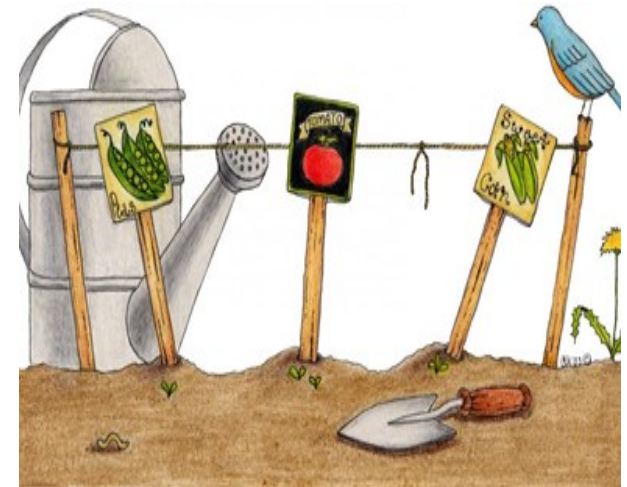
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L. Stanley & B. Raabe Aug 2017

Seasonal Garden Activity Guidelines

For the full calendar,
extension.wsu.edu/kittitas/gardening



Seasonal Gardening Activities Calendar

Winter

(December, January, February)

- Order and read seed catalogs
- Plan and sketch your garden on graph paper
- Start seeds indoors
- Check perennials for heaving caused by freezing
- Keep sidewalk salt away from plants and lawn
- Uncover plants weighted down with snow
- Spread wood ashes over garden, but don't overdo it (wood ashes increase pH)
- Continue to feed birds
- Rearrange mulch if blown or washed away from plants
- Clean and sharpen garden tools.
- Prune fruit trees and blueberries – observe for pests
- Use dormant oil sprays, if needed, but don't apply during freezing weather

Spring

(March, April, May)

- Remove winter protectors around plants
- Harden off plant starts
- Install new batteries in watering timers
- Inspect watering systems
- Fertilize plants and trees as needed – add organic matter
- Prune summer flowering shrubs before new growth appears (Butterfly bush, Caryopteris)
- Hold off on pruning rhodies, Azaleas, Spirea, Mock Orange, until finished blooming.
- Cut back ornamental grasses to a few inches above ground in early spring
- Start a new lawn or renew an old lawn – aerate/treat weeds/fertilize/water
- Start your garden with cool season seeds and transplants; add organic matter, protectors and mulch
- Plant a tree for arbor Day
- Observe fruit trees, if needed, spray. Consider impact on bees before using sprays.

Summer

(June, July, August)

- Remove spent blooms from annuals & perennials
- Plant seeds/transplants for warm season – add organic matter, protectors, mulch
- Thin seedlings; mulch as they grow
- Hill potatoes with soil or mulch
- Water in the early morning
- Pay attention to extra watering of hanging baskets, containers, new plants
- Thin fruit; prop trees if needed
- Observe fruit trees and plants for pests – if needed, spray – consider edibles and bees before using sprays
- After berries are harvested, renovate strawberry patch, cut old raspberry canes, fertilize, cultivate, add organic matter, and water
- Prune sweet cherry trees in August.
- Add supports for tall plants
- Leave grass clipping on lawn