

200KREASONS MONTHLY GARDEN CALENDAR

Use this handy calendar organizer to keep your garden on-track to success.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

- Organize a **Garden Leadership Team**.
 - Hold a meeting for those interested.
 - Elect a Garden Coordinator.
 - Identify & assign leadership tasks.
- Create/Review your **Garden's Rules**.
 - Discuss modifications, especially regarding chemicals.
- Create a **Budget/Review** last year's.
 - Consider a fund-raising activity.
 - Determine dues amount, if any.
 - Determine if you need new hoses/tools.
 - Prioritize your garden's needs.
- Prepare for Garden Sign-Up**.
 - Set meeting date, time and site.
 - Review garden plot assignments.
 - Review past gardeners list and waiting list.
 - Draw a site plan, noting plots, water, compost areas, etc.
- Advertise** your garden. Distribute flyers at churches, libraries, grocery stores, etc.
- Order Garden Supplies** such as compost and/or seed for your garden.
- Identify local businesses to **Seek Donations** of equipment or supplies.

MARCH

- Inform all gardeners of the **Garden Sign-Up** and **Spring Clean-Up** dates.
- Hold **Garden Sign-Up** meeting, giving all gardeners a copy of the garden rules.
- Re-Advertise** your garden, if plots are still available. Print and distribute flyers.
- Collect a **Soil Sample** and have it tested at your area Cooperative Extension office (www.uaex.edu/counties). Share the results with all gardeners.
- Prepare Soil** in plots as soon as weather permits.

APRIL

- Distribute Garden Supplies** such as compost and/or seeds.
- Hold a garden **Spring Clean-Up**. Review rules, finalize plot assignments, discuss compost management and trash removal arrangements, etc.
- Schedule Required Workdays** during the growing season.
- Note Repairs** needed to fencing, water system, compost site, etc. Recruit volunteers or make arrangements with garden owner for repairs.
- Have a visible, attractive & readable **Garden Sign**.
- Utilize a **Garden Bulletin Board** or use Social Media to post announcements.
- Begin to **Plant and Maintain** the garden.

MAY

- Have a **Spring Gardeners Get-Together**.
 - Determine how the garden can provide a community service, e.g. donating extra produce to a pantry.
 - Plant and maintain flowers in tree pits, etc. if desired.
- Post Required Workdays** schedule, listing the regular workdays needed throughout the growing season.
- Continue to **Plant and Maintain** the garden.
- Start a **Compost Pile**. Have a Compost Management Plan all gardeners understand.
- Schedule **In-Garden Workshops**, starting with basic gardening and planting classes.

JUNE

- Assign Unused Plots** to people on the garden waiting list.
- Plant a **Flower Border**, if possible.
- Encourage **Composting**, using the agreed-upon management plan.
- Hold a **Required Workday** for all gardeners. Clean up weeds in the common areas, refresh pathways, prune and maintain trees, shrubs, etc

JULY

- Host a **Community Garden Event**, inviting neighbors, business people, and local officials.
- Recognize** outstanding volunteers and gardeners, as well as any businesses who made donations.
- Continue to encourage **Composting**, using the agreed-upon management plan.
- Hold a **Required Workday** for all gardeners. Clean up weeds in the common areas, refresh pathways, prune and maintain trees, shrubs, etc.

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

- Donate Surplus** produce to a food pantry, or raise money for the garden by participating at a local farmer's market.
- Plant fall vegetables**.
- Invite** neighbors, businesses, and local officials to visit your garden.
- Hold a **Required Workday** for all gardeners.
 - Clean up weeds in the common areas, refresh pathways, prune and maintain trees, shrubs.
 - Remove any pest-infested and diseased plant material (do not compost these).

OCTOBER

- Organize a Fall Clean-Up.**
 - Set meeting date and time, including a rain date.
 - Ensure all plant material, stakes, tools, etc. are cleared out of the garden by the required date.
- Make equipment/garden site **Repairs.**
 - Clean, repair and store tools and equipment.
 - Note other repairs needed to fencing, water system, compost site, etc., and either make repairs or discuss needed repairs with garden owner/organization.
- Encourage all gardeners to **Sow a Cover-Crop.**

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

- Send Thank You Notes** to all contributors and volunteers.
- Prepare a **Final Report.**
 - Include budget, summary of activities, recommendations and priorities for the coming year.
 - Distribute gardeners and garden owner, if applicable.
- Garden leadership committee should **Evaluate Plots.**
 - Determine who will be invited back next year. Notify the gardeners of the decisions, in accordance with garden's procedural guidelines.
- Prune** dormant trees, shrubs and vines.
- Hold an organizational meeting** to evaluate the garden, suggest changes and improvements, choose priorities and get organized for next season.