

## February Lawn & Garden To-Do List

### Trees and Shrubs

- Cover tender plants before a freeze.
- Prune roses as soon as the buds begin to swell.
- Leave winterized roses covered until all danger of hard frost has passed.
- Prune trees or shrubs damaged by winter storms.
- Zones 7 and warmer can plant bare-root trees and shrubs. Zones 8 and warmer can plant bare-root roses.

### Perennials and Bulbs

- Check your stored tender bulbs every two weeks and discard any rotten ones. If they look withered, lightly mist the packing medium with water.
- Look for early bulb sprouts as a sign of spring!
- Prune Group B and Group C clematis vines.
- Prune or mow ornamental grasses, if desired.
- Zones 8 and warmer can plant ornamental grasses.
- Zones 9 and warmer can plant summer-flowering bulbs and perennials outdoors.

### Annuals and Containers

- Continue protecting tender container plants from freezing temperatures, and don't forget to water!
- Fertilize winter-blooming pansies.
- Spread poppy seeds on top of the last snow.
- Zones 9 and warmer can plant spring annuals outdoors after the last frost.

### Lawns

- Use post-emergence herbicide on growing weeds.
- Apply pre-emergent crabgrass control when soil temperatures reach 55° F for 4 or 5 days.
- Don't walk or drive on frozen grass!

### Fruits, Vegetables, and Herbs

- Inspect stored fruits and vegetables and discard any that are spoiled.
- Fertilize winter vegetable plants if needed.
- Prune dormant fruit trees and grape vines.
- Replace the top inch of container soil with fresh compost.
- Apply dormant spray to fruit trees before new growth starts.
- Ventilate cold frame on warm days.
- Zones 8 and higher can plant cool-season vegetables such as lettuce, broccoli, and cabbage.

### Houseplants

- Protect houseplants from drafts and cold temperatures, and make sure plants don't touch cold window glass.
- Increase humidity around tropical plants.
- Water regularly but less often, and reduce feeding.
- Prune house plants if needed.
- Repot your holiday cactus if needed.

### Cleanup and Maintenance

- Till your garden soil and work in amendments.
- Avoid using salt on frozen driveways.
- Look for brown praying mantis egg cases, and replace them gently back into the plant.
- Do late winter maintenance of garden tools.
- Start up power tools, such as your lawn mower, chainsaw, or weed trimmer.
- Don't forget to water!
- Go out on a nice day and turn your compost pile.
- Keep those bird feeders filled!
- Make out your garden calendar.
- Place orders for seeds and plants.
- Start seed flats indoors.
- Keep Valentine's Day flowers out of strong sun.