

# GARDENING CALENDAR

A USEFUL RESOURCE GUIDE TO GARDENING IN FALCON, COLORADO

## JANUARY

*a planning month*

### What to grow this year?

Trees and shrubs, vegetables, fruit or a butterfly and hummingbird garden

### Where to grow this year?

Measure and layout garden

**Water** if temps stay above 40°



**Tip:** Vegetable gardens need 8 - 10 hours of sun for garden

## FEBRUARY

*a planning month*

### Research, learn, and plan

- Enjoy seed catalogs
- Check out library books like: *Xeriscape Colorado* to learn about native plants

**Water** if temps stay above 40°



**Tip:** Take a look at the High Prairie Library Seed Library!

## MARCH

*a planning month*

### Do we start seeds inside?

Appropriate for cool weather plants

### Do we buy the plants later?

**Pick up seed starter supplies, garden tools, and supplies**

**Water** if temps stay above 40°



**Tip:** print out a minimum soil temperature seed sowing chart

## APRIL

*a planting month*

**Join:** Falcon Garden Club to ask questions and learn

### Start seeds indoors

Get soil test and amend soil (with organic material ASAP)

**Plant:** Asparagus, strawberries and spring bulbs (glads, lilies, etc.)

**Water** if temps stay above 40°



**Tip:** Locate underground lines Call 811 or colorado811.org

## MAY

*a planting month*

**Last avg. frost date** May 22 (Falcon)

**Prune dead branches** from trees and shrubs after they bud

**Harden off seedlings** 1 - 2 weeks before planting outside

**Start picking asparagus** (every year)

**Plant:** Flowering vines, grapes, rhubarb, and roses!

**Water** if temps stay above 40°



**Tip:** Buy Soil Thermometer Use black plastic to warm soil

## JUNE

*a planting month*

**Time to plant and protect** from windy, cold nights (white plastic covers)

**Water, weed, and mulch** while enjoying being outside.

**Plus** herbs, iris and annual flowers (Spinach in 60 days)



**Tip:** Both cherry tomatoes and determinate tomatoes grow well in Falcon, but make sure to buy a watering timer for them

## JULY

*a harvesting month*

### Maintain watering and weeding

**Mulch pathways** with straw or hay to prevent drying between beds.

**Use wood mulch** around trees and shrubs to maximize watering (straw for veggies/wood for trees)

**Begin harvesting** early season crops such as spinach, radishes, rhubarb, lettuce



**Tip:** Use black forest slash/mulch. Available for free.

## AUGUST

*a harvesting month*

**Replant** spinach if desired.

**Pick:** Peas, beets, squash, broccoli, green peppers, cucumbers, cabbage, corn, tomatoes, squash and zucchini and zucchini and the neverending zucchini

**Harvest:** Eat, give away

**Process:** Freeze, can, dry, pickle



**Tip:** Buy straw bales at our local feed and hay stores.

## SEPTEMBER

*a harvesting month*

**Harvest:** Cabbage, zucchini, beets, beans, broccoli, spinach, squash, tomatoes, etc.

**If desired:** Protect plants to extend growing season (same for October)

**Plant:** Fall bulbs for spring beauty (like daffodils, tulips, crocus)



**Tip:** Take a break and watch some football.

## OCTOBER

*a clean-up month*

### Rake up and compost

**Soil amendment** now is key to success next year.

**First avg. frost date** Oct. 3 (Falcon)

**Golden Tip:** (first call to locate lines) Double-dig (down to 20") your permanent garden plots and mix-in up to 1/3 organic material. (Double-digging only every 7 or 10 years)

## NOVEMBER

*a clean-up month*

**Finish** garden clean-up

**Open garden** plots and bury stems

**Clean-up** the tools and put away all garden supplies

**Golden Tip:** Add compost or manures now for soil health and nutrients by Spring. \*Add kitchen scraps all winter to enhance and expand soil bacterial (No plate scrapings, fats, or salts)

## DECEMBER

*a clean-up month*

### GOOD JOB! REST! WELL DONE!

You've built your garden with Planning, Planting and Discipline. Think about all you've learned!

**Golden Tip:** Apply a heavy layer of wood mulch around trees and shrubs after a hard freeze to protect roots and minimize winter watering. "Grow where you're planted." - Mr. Bruce