# 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 40º

- **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 40º

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

## March
**a planting 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 40º

## 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 40º

- **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 40º

- **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 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)

## 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