



March

Plant flower and vegetable seeds indoors

Prune fruit trees and grape vines

Start tuberous begonias in pots

Remove winter protection from shrubs and evergreens, but do so on an overcast day to prevent sun-scorch

April

Start summer flowering bulbs indoors

Apply dormant oil spray to fruit trees and shrubs

Remove heavily matted leaves from garden beds, shred and use as a mulch

Clean away plant debris from perennial beds

Turn over the compost pile and mix in some shredded leaves

Watch for lily beetles emerging on warm days; hand pick and destroy

May

Transfer bedding annuals to outdoors in a protected area or cold frame to harden-off

Sow annual seeds including vegetables directly into the soil

Repair any winter damage to lawn, over-seed where necessary

Plant perennials, shrubs, trees and hedges

Fertilize lawn and start mowing, aerate if necessary

Prune summer flowering shrubs

Plant annual bulbs directly into soil

Mulch new beds or top-up the mulch on older beds

Transplant tender flowers and vegetables after risk of frost passes. We recommend minimum overnight temperatures of 10°C. Below this temperature, tomatoes will catface and squash and peppers will be set back.

Check plants for any large infestations; hand pick bugs where possible, and use an approved solution for large infestations. Consider leaving some insects for the birds.

June

Prune evergreens and hedges

Thin out crowded annuals and vegetables

Add garden waste to compost

Check plants for any large infestations; hand pick bugs where possible, and use an approved solution for large infestations. Consider leaving some insects for the birds.

Stake plants that need support

Prune spring flowering shrubs and trees after flowering

July

Raise the cutting height of mower blade

Shallow hoe gardens regularly if not mulched

Hand pick any weeds that have made it through the mulch

Check for aphids on roses, nasturtiums, etc., a strong spray from the hose should remove them

Prune climbing roses

Top-dress plants with compost or well-rotted manure

August

Monitor lawn for grubs (See "Resources")

Sow vegetables for fall harvest

Take notes and photos of the yard for future planning

Continue to weed and control pest problems

September

Renovate perennial borders, divide perennials and share with friends

Add white Dutch clover seed to lawns for biodiversity

Prepare and seed new lawns

Top dress existing lawns and garden beds with compost or manure

Plant garlic

Plant evergreens



October

Plant spring flowering bulbs (tulip, crocus, daffodil, etc.)

Dig and store summer bulbs

Plant amaryllis for Christmas blooms

Clean up garden for fall but leave some seed heads for birds

Allow a layer of leaves to settle on garden beds for winter protection

Gather leaves from lawn areas and driveway and add to compost pile

Make sure 1st year transplants (especially trees, shrubs & cedar hedges) are well watered before winter freeze-up

Put shelters around 1st year evergreen transplants to protect from winter's drying wind and sun, and do the same for broadleaf evergreens such as rhododendrons and daphne

Winter

Clean your garden tools

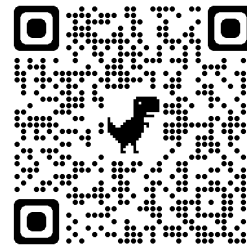
Review your garden notes and photos to plan changes and additions

Check out new garden trends in seed and plant catalogues

Read a garden book

Join a garden club or horticultural society

Scan this QR Code and get the calendar online!



Resources

Insect information: www.uoguelph.ca/debu/

Garden care: <https://ottawa.ca/en/living-ottawa/environment-conservation-and-climate/wildlife-and-plants/plants>

Grubs in lawns: www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/facts/08-023w.htm

Wildlife: <https://ottawa.ca/en/living-ottawa/environment/wildlife>

Soil testing: www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/resource/soillabs.htm

Weed identification: www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/facts/ontweeds/weedgal.htm

Sign-up to the Trowel Talk newsletter:

To sign up for Trowel Talk, our monthly gardening advice newsletter, go to:
<https://vr2.verticalresponse.com/s/websitesignupform15393162790710>

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