

MONTHLY GARDENING CHECKLIST

February

February can deliver unpredictable weather, but plenty of sun breaks! Take a moment to get outside and enjoy the blooms of late winter flowers as they wake up, do some pruning, and prepare your garden beds for Spring.



FOR THE GARDEN

Seasonal Color

- ☐ **For window boxes and flower pots:** Hellebores, Primroses, Pansies, Violas, Spring-blooming bulbs like Crocus, Daffodils, and Snowdrops
- ☐ **For fragrance:** winter-blooming Daphne odora, Sarcococca, Evergreen Clematis vine

Planting & Maintenance

- ☐ **Plant:** Roses and Fruit Trees
- ☐ **Fertilize Spring-blooming bulbs** as they come up with **G&B All Purpose Fertilizer** or **Bone Meal**.
- ☐ **Dormant spray for pest/disease control:** Roses, Fruit Trees, Dogwoods, and other deciduous trees/shrubs, as needed—**Bonide Liquid Copper** for disease prevention and **Bonide All-Season Horticultural Oil** for insects
- ☐ **Prune mid to late month:** Roses, Summer-blooming deciduous Clematis, Blueberries, Fall-bearing Raspberries, Fruit Trees, Twig Dogwoods
- ☐ **Cut back:** dormant Ornamental Grasses and old foliage on Hellebores, Epimediums, and Sword Ferns
- ☐ **Control moss** in driveways, walkways, and flower beds with **Lily Miller Moss Out** or **Bonide MossMax**.

Edible Gardening

- ☐ **Sow seeds indoors:** Broccoli, Brussel's Sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower
- ☐ **Plant seeds outside:** Edible Peas and Sweet Peas (when soil temperature reaches 40–45°F)
- ☐ **Plant fruit and veggie starts:** Asparagus, Cane Berries, Grapes, Rhubarb, Strawberries, Fruit Trees
- ☐ **Till/turn cover crops** and level soil at least 2–3 weeks before planting spring crops, weather permitting.
- ☐ **Control slugs** with **Sluggo** or **Slug Magic** every 3–4 weeks to reduce population and protect new growth.



FOR THE LAWN

- ☐ **Control moss:** **Lily Miller Moss Out** or **Bonide MossMax**
- ☐ **Aerate and overseed** to reinvigorate lawns; apply lime and iron if needed and fertilize as weather warms up.



IN THE SHED

- ☐ **Keep a supply** of frost blankets, burlap, or row covers for last-minute plant protection. Use landscape staples, clothespins, or binder clips to keep covers in place.
- ☐ **Inspect gardening tools**—clean, sharpen, and oil, as needed. Replace worn blades or springs on pruners.
- ☐ **Take inventory** of fertilizers and chemicals; make a list of needs for the Spring.



INDOOR GARDENING

- ☐ **Repot and/or refresh soil** (March is the start of the active growing season for houseplants)—break up top layer with fork, add thin layer of new soil or worm castings, topdress with fine layer of fresh potting soil.
- ☐ **Avoid overwatering;** water repotted plants cautiously.
- ☐ **Wipe down leaves** with mild soapy water or neem oil.
- ☐ **Clean** outsides of containers and drainage saucers.



JUST FOR FUN

- ☐ **Pot up and bring primroses inside** to add cheer and fragrance—the yellow ones have the sweetest smell!
- ☐ **Visit local public gardens** for inspiration:
 - Bishop's Close at Elk Rock
 - Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden
 - Hoyt Arboretum
 - Lan Su Chinese Garden
 - Leach Botanical Garden
 - Oregon Garden
 - Portland Japanese Garden