

MONTHLY GARDENING CHECKLIST

March

As new life emerges from the ground, March is a great time to do some serious planting while buttoning up those winter gardening tasks. The forward momentum is unstoppable, and the work done in the garden now will set the stage for the coming season.



FOR THE GARDEN

Seasonal Color

- For containers:** Wallflower, Hyacinths, Ranunculus, Anemones, Spring flowering bulbs
- For garden beds:** Primroses, Pansies, Violas, Hellebores

Planting & Maintenance

- Apply G&B Fertilizers** to perennials and shrubs.
- Protect perennials from slugs:** **Sluggo** or **Slug Magic**
- Fertilize roses** (after 2 inches of new growth) with **Portland Rose Society 15-10-10** or **PRS Organic 5-4-4**.
- Divide Hostas, Irises, and Daylilies** as they emerge.
- Transplant perennials and Roses** while dormant.
- Prune:** Camellias and Daphne (after blossoms fade), Abelia, Pine, Ferns, Pyracantha, Lavender, Rockrose, Aucuba, Box Honeysuckle, Mimosa, Spiraea (summer-blooming), Twig Dogwood, Witch Hazel, Beautyberry, Caryopteris, Ornamental Grasses (beginning of March)
- Clear moss** from roofs and walkways with **Moss Out**.

Edible Gardening

- Invest in your soil:**
 - Measure N, P, K, and pH levels with soil testing kit.
 - Amend with **G&B Soil Building Conditioner**, **G&B Harvest Supreme**, or **Malibu Compost**.
 - Plow or turn in cover crops; wait a few weeks before planting new crops.
 - Check soil temps; plant cool-season crops 40-45°F.
- Plant cold-season crop starts:** Broccoli, Cabbage, Kale, Cauliflower, Leeks, Lettuce, Onion (seed/sets), Peas (snow, shelling, snap), Radish, Spinach, Swiss Chard
- Buy seed Potatoes:** Chit in a cool, dark place to form growing eyes; plant outdoors when soils reach 45-50°F.
- Plant perennial veggies:** Artichoke, Asparagus, Rhubarb
- Protect veggies from slugs** with **Sluggo** or **Slug Magic**.
- Plant herbs:** Chives, Lavender, Rosemary, Sage, Thyme
- Start tender crops:** Tomatoes, Peppers, Squash, Eggplant (from seed indoors)
- Plant Fruit Trees and Berries** (different varieties)
- Feed Cane Berries:** **G&B Citrus & Fruit Tree Fertilizer**



FOR THE LAWN

- Control moss:** **Lilly Miller Moss Out** or **Bonide MossMax**
- Add lime to adjust pH** if needed; allows fertilizer to be easily absorbed by grass; helps clear acid-loving moss.
- Apply G&B Lawn Fertilizer** after first mowing of the season to support a lush carpet of grass.
- Lay grass seed** (after 3/15) to patch and fill; cover new seed with fine layer of **G&B Soil Building Conditioner**.
- Consider professional lawn renovations** like aeration and overseeding with our Landscaping Department.



IN THE SHED

- Go through chemicals and fertilizers:** Properly dispose of old or ineffective products (local waste management or Metro Facility); make list of products to replenish
- Go through old seeds:** dispose of those that are too old to germinate (check package expiration date).



INDOOR GARDENING

- Freshen up indoor plants:** scratch soil with fork and topdress with worm castings and fresh potting soil.
- Repot houseplants if needed:** Remove old soil; replant in slightly larger pot with fresh soil; avoid overwatering.
- Basic plant maintenance:** Wipe leaves with mild soapy water or neem oil; clean pots and drainage saucers.
- Take cuttings** from healthy plants to share with friends!



JUST FOR FUN

- Sow grass seed indoors** (at end of month) for Easter decorations; young shoots should be up in 1-2 weeks.
- Make a Spring bulb dish garden** by using potted bulbs, sheet moss, and soil in a low bowl.
- Feed the birds!** Spring is a critical time to support wildlife in the garden by supplementing their diet with birdseed; clean birdfeeder weekly and keep it filled.