



Garden Talks

Garden Calendar

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Prescott, Prescott Valley, Chino Valley
The average growing season is 140 days, USDA zone 6b

January: Water landscape twice if it fails to rain 1" or snow 7". Plant Living Christmas Trees this month. Prepare plant beds for early cauliflower, cabbage, lettuce. Plan your flower and vegetable beds and place seed order. Dig tree holes for new spring trees. Rake up what's left of summer mulch and compost it to destroy overwintering insects. Prune fruit trees. Spray "**Lime Sulfur**" then "**Dormant**" to fruit trees. The mean monthly temperature is 36 degrees.

February: Apply "**Weed & Grass Stopper**" to prevent winter dandelions and fox tail weeds from emerging. Prune fruit trees, grapes and brambles, then apply "**Dormant oil**". Good time to plant this year's roses, trees and shrubs. Ideal month to sow new wildflowers gardens from seed. Water landscape twice if it fails to rain 1" or snow 7". The mean monthly temperature is 39 degrees F.

March: Best month to prune roses or plant new ones. Plant new trees and shrubs before they break dormancy. Begin planting perennials, bulbs, onions, garlic, rhubarb and asparagus. Apply Watters "**All Purpose Plant Food**" to everything in the landscape, especially evergreens. At the same time give everything in the landscape a dose of "Soil Sulfur". This will correct pH problems through the year. Don't be tempted by the nice days, wait to plant warm season vegetables like tomatoes and peppers until April to May; freezing temperatures may continue into May. The mean monthly temperature is 43 degrees F.

April: Early tomatoes, peppers and eggplant may be sown in a "**Wall-of-Water**" or hotbeds. Early planting of beets, carrots, cauliflower, broccoli, chard, lettuce, mustard, onions, parsnips, peas, radishes, spinach and turnips. Seed or sod lawns with Prescott blend bluegrass or Water Wise fescue. Best month to plant spring pasture grasses. Plant asparagus bed. Feed established lawns with Watters "**All Purpose Plant Food**" plant food; also feed trees & shrubs if you forgot to last month. Watch for aphids and thrip. The normal date for the last occurrence of 28 degree temperatures (the critical temperature for fruit tree blossoms) is April 27. The mean monthly temperature is 49 degrees F.

May: The average date for last killing frost (32 degrees) is May 19 in Prescott and May 11 in the valley areas. Plant beans, corn, cucumbers, eggplant, melons, peppers, pumpkins squash, tomatoes. Begin deep watering of trees and shrubs. Watch for aphids and cutworms. Elm leaf beetle larvae emerge from eggs, so check undersides of leaves. The mean monthly temperature is 57 degrees F.

June: Apply "**Weed & Grass Stopper**" by the end of this month to prevent summer tumbleweed, goat head and horehound weeds from emerging. Sow seed for late cabbage in beds. Bush beans, black-eyed peas, cucumbers, summer squash all do well when planted now. Later this month plant June corn and pinto beans. Check shrubs such as junipers, Alberta spruce and pyracantha for spider mites. Watch for grasshoppers, caterpillars, and other large summer insects. The mean monthly temperature is 67 degree F.



July: Plan the fall garden. Set out celery and cabbage plants. Plant beets, broccoli, brussel sprouts, chard, kohlrabi, turnips and rutabagas for fall and winter use. Feed trees and shrubs with Watters "**All Purpose Plant Food**" and also add "**Soil Activator**" by Natural Guard this month. Watch for mildew in the garden this month. The mean monthly temperature is 73 degrees F.

August: The last planting of fall carrots should be made by the first of this month. Spray weeds with Hi-Yield "**Killzall**" for best results. You can plant lettuce, spinach, and radishes for harvest before the first frost. Begin planting rye and pasture grasses. Planting Bermuda and Buffalo grass before the fifteenth. The mean monthly temperature is 79 degrees F.

September: Best month to plant Prescott blend bluegrass or Water Wise fescue, and pasture grass mixtures. This is the ideal Fall feeding month. Feed everything in the landscape with Watters "**All Purpose Plant Food**". Sow onion sets or seed for spring use. Do not let your weeds go to seed, remove them now.



Spring and early summer blooming perennials need to be divided every 2 to 4 years in the fall (late summer and early fall blooming perennials should be divided in early spring.) Plant ornamental kale, mums, pansies, and snapdragons for fall and winter flower color. The mean monthly temperature is 65 degrees F.

October: Best month to plant container grown trees and shrubs. Check for aphid on roses and cool season vegetables. Plant mustard, lettuce, spinach, and winter radishes. This is the ideal month to plant spring blooming bulbs like daffodil, tulips and crocus. The average date for the first killing frost is mid to late October. The mean monthly temperature is 55 degrees F.

November: Continue planting bulbs and container grown trees and shrubs. Drain and cover decorative fountains and drip systems by the end of the month. The first occurrence in the fall of 20 degree temperatures is normally November 8th. The mean monthly temperature is 44 degree F. **Watters Christmas World** opens the first weekend of November.

December: Great month to plant winter evergreen shrubs like junipers, cotoneaster, ivy and living Christmas trees. Promote strong winter bud growth with the final application of the year. Feed everything in the landscape with Watters "**All Purpose Plant Food**". Fresh cut Christmas trees arrive the Monday after Thanksgiving. On nice days clean the garden up and compost. Water landscape twice if it fails to rain 1" or snow 7". The mean monthly temperature is 37 degrees.



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