

ZONE 8

WINTER PLANTING CHECKLIST

BOONSTEAD - THE HELPFUL PLACE

BUILDING AND TOOLS

- Maintain your garden tools by cleaning and sharpening them
- Drain fuel tanks of lawn equipment such as mowers, tillers, or chippers before storing for the winter
- Avoid placing rock salt on sidewalks and driveways as they can damage plants
- Clear spaces for future structures or garden areas
- Keep firewood away from your home and dry, for use during winter months
- Store power tools and garden equipment out of the elements in a dry space
- Check for pests and mice living indoors to keep warm

GARDEN PLANNING

- Start a garden journal to chart seed and plant varieties, and specifications they have, as well as germination and maturation rates
- Research companion plants for next seasons garden
- Sketch out or design how your garden will look for the next year, rotating crops, or placing a new trellis
- Ensure you have seed starting equipment such as lights, heat mats, and seed trays
- Consider garden gifts for holiday occasions. A house plant, garden tools, or a homemade canned recipe are great choices
- Visit your local botanical gardens, arboretums, or nature centers to get inspiration
- Later in the winter months start preparing for your spring garden, make sure beds are ready for seedlings and transplants

ALL ABOUT WATER

- Make sure outdoor faucets are covered
- Drain hoses and empty birdbaths to prevent freezing
- Water soil thoroughly before a freeze to insulate plants still growing
- Check on rainwater collection systems. Ensure the pipes are well insulated to prevent freezing

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SEED NEEDS

- Get your seed catalogs and order seeds before the one's you want are out of stock
- Look for seed swaps in your area to diversify your garden
- Wash and sterilize seed starting containers
- Prepare seed starting areas close to sunny windows, preferable on the southwest side of your home where it is warmest
- Start indoor seed planting

GARDEN CLEAN UP

- If you haven't done so already, dump out and store any pots out of the elements so they do not freeze or crack
- Cut back dead plants to about 6 inches and add non-diseased matter to your compost pile
- Cover garden beds and bare spaces with compost
- Plant a cover crop like mustard, peas, or clover
- Add mulch to help insulate the soil and protect perennial plants
- Prune fruit and non-flowering ornamental trees, deciduous vining plants, rose bushes, and grapes
- In the late winter months, clean up and clear out garden beds, amend garden soil, and add more mulch
- Add slow-release fertilizer to your shrubs and garden beds as well as any indoor plants
- Consider repotting indoor houseplants
- Protect trunks of young trees with chicken wire or hardware cloth
- Turn compost and cover it to prevent nutrients from leaching out with winter rains
- Start a compost pile if you have not already done so
- Dig and divide crowded bulbs
- Cover non-cold hardy annuals and perennials with light colored sheets or clothes to keep it warmer
- Clean your indoor house plant leaves
- Chop and store firewood as needed

CANNING AND PRESERVING

- Harvest and preserve fall crops using your favorite recipes
- Clean and sterilize canning jars for use and discard broken or chipped jars
- Look for sales on equipment such as jars, lids, canners, dehydrators, and shelving
- Keep your root cellars and pantries clean
- Take note of quantities your family consumes to prepare for planting more or less of a certain crop next year.
- Enjoy your delicious, canned recipes with friends and family

WINTER PLANTING LIST

DECEMBER, JANUARY, FEBRUARY - ZONE 8

SEED STARTING INDOORS

Broccoli
Brussel sprouts
Cabbage
Cauliflower
Leek
Chiles
Eggplant
Kale
Peppers
Tomatoes

GROWING INDOORS/GREENHOUSE

Arugula
Beets
Swiss chard
Mustard
Cauliflower
Radishes
Spinach
Broccoli
Carrots
Cabbage
Peas
Turnips
Lettuce
Tomatoes
Eggplant
Peppers

DIRECT SEEDING OUTDOORS

Flowers

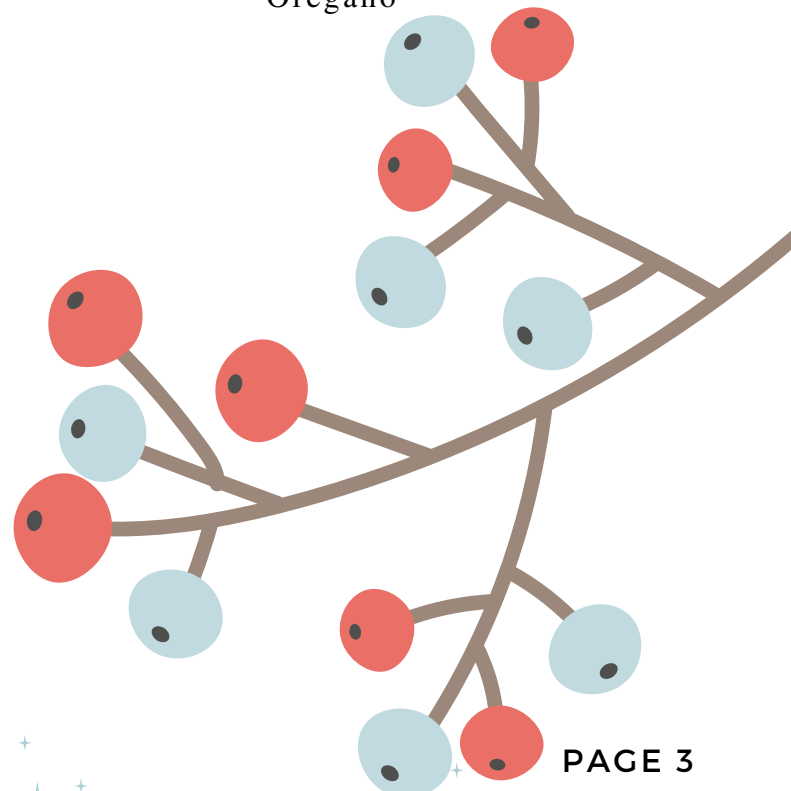
Nigella
Poppy
Larkspur

Edibles

Arugula
Asparagus roots
Beets
Bok choy
Carrot
Chinese broccoli
Chinese snow peas
Cilantro
Collards
Dill
Endive
English peas
Fennel
Garlic chives
Horseradish roots
Lettuce
Parsley
Potatoes
Radish
Spinach
Sugar snap peas
Swiss chard
Turnips

TRANSPLANTS

Broccoli
Cauliflower
Collards
Kale
Kohlrabi
Onion starts
Oregano



WINTER HARVEST LIST

DECEMBER, JANUARY, FEBRUARY - ZONE 8

DECEMBER

Arugula
Beets
Bok choy
Broccoli
Brussel sprouts
Bush snap beans
Cabbage
Carrots
Cauliflower
Celery
Chinese cabbage
Cilantro
Collard greens
Dill
Endive
Fava beans
Fennel
Fenugreek
Green beans
Kale
Lettuce
Mustard
Onions
Peas
Radishes
Spinach
Swiss chard



JANUARY

Arugula
Broccoli
Brussel sprouts
Cabbage
Carrots
Cauliflower
Collard greens
Kale
Lettuce
Mustard
Peas
Radishes
Spinach
Swiss chard

FEBRUARY

IF ANYTHING IS LEFT

Some Lettuces
Broccoli
Cauliflower
Cabbage
Brussel Sprouts

