

Garden Calendar

Q: Is there a good garden calendar I can download help remind me of monthly gardening tasks?

A: Glad you asked! The UT-TSU Extension has just posted their 2022 calendar. It can be found at: <https://extension.tennessee.edu/publications/Documents/W436.pdf>. This calendar was developed to help Tennessee gardeners succeed.

Here are some other good things to do this month to help your garden be a success this year:

Sharpened garden tools are so much better to use than dull ones and you will notice the difference! Pruning tree limbs will be so much easier and the pruned area will heal much faster to the betterment of the plant or tree. And your shoulders won't get so sore from having to exert so much effort.

Your garden hoes and shovels could also be sharpened. You will also notice the difference when you start digging into our famous northeast Tennessee red clay or going through small roots.

Get online or dig out those seed catalogs you got last fall and start planning your spring plantings. Remember the saying from last summer, "Proper preparation prevents poor performance."

Speaking of planning, it's always handy to have a diagram of your garden plot. This is a good time to draw out a sketch of your garden and even plan where you want to place your flowers or vegetables for the year. A good start on that is this handy guide to planning your vegetable garden layout on the University of Illinois Extension website:

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/vegguide/step02.cfm>.

If you have a resolution to finally get your yard or flower garden in order, UT-TSU Extension also has a printable guide for landscaping design to help get you started. Check it out here: <https://extension.tennessee.edu/publications/Documents/W869.pdf>.

The above should keep you garden-busy through January for success throughout the year! –
Your friendly Master Gardener.