

Winter Garden Chores Checklist



1. Garden Maintenance

- ☐ **Inspect garden structures:** Check fences, trellises, and raised beds for winter damage and make repairs as needed.
- ☐ **Clear snow from plants:** Gently brush off heavy snow from shrubs and trees to prevent breakage.
- ☐ **Protect tender plants:** Apply mulch or cover with burlap to insulate plants that remain outdoors.

2. Soil and Compost Care

- ☐ **Add compost to garden beds:** Spread a layer of compost on garden beds to break down over winter and enrich the soil for spring.
- ☐ **Maintain compost pile:** Continue turning the compost pile if weather permits to keep it active and prevent odor.
- ☐ **Protect soil:** If possible, cover bare soil with a layer of mulch or cover crops to prevent erosion and nutrient loss.

3. Tools and Equipment Care

- ☐ **Clean and oil tools:** Wash, sharpen, and oil garden tools to prevent rust and ensure they're ready for spring.
- ☐ **Service lawn equipment:** Perform any necessary maintenance on lawnmowers, trimmers, and other equipment before storing them.

4. Indoor Gardening

- ☐ **Start seeds indoors:** Begin germinating seeds for early spring crops like lettuce, broccoli, and herbs.
- ☐ **Maintain indoor plants:** Water and care for indoor plants to keep them healthy throughout winter.

5. Planning and Preparation

- ☐ **Plan next year's garden:** Reflect on past seasons and make plans for crop rotation, new plant varieties, and garden layout.

- ☐ **Order seeds and supplies:** Purchase seeds, gardening tools, and supplies for the upcoming growing season.
- ☐ **Update garden journal:** Record notes on what worked and what didn't in your garden journal for future reference.

6. Pest and Wildlife Management

- ☐ **Check for pests:** Inspect stored produce and indoor plants for signs of pests or diseases.
- ☐ **Prevent rodent damage:** Store seeds and bulbs in rodent-proof containers and keep storage areas clean.

7. Winter Projects

- ☐ **Build or repair garden structures:** Use winter downtime to construct or fix garden beds, trellises, and other structures.
- ☐ **Prepare garden tools and equipment:** Organize and repair any tools or equipment that need attention.

8. Community and Learning

- ☐ **Attend gardening workshops:** Participate in winter gardening classes or webinars to learn new techniques and stay engaged with the gardening community.
- ☐ **Join gardening forums:** Connect with other gardeners online to exchange tips and ideas.

9. Enjoy the Season

- ☐ **Plan indoor gardening projects:** Start small indoor gardening projects, such as growing herbs or microgreens.
- ☐ **Reflect and relax:** Enjoy the winter season by taking time to relax and reflect on the past year's gardening successes and challenges.

