



January

- Plant garlic cloves when the weather allows**
Try elephant garlic for fun! It is big but has a milder flavour.
- Plant bare-root fruit bushes and raspberry canes**
Harvest kale which is a superfood!
- Cut down any dead stems to give light**
To emerging perennials and bulbs.
- Mulch borders with compost**
- Add a pond**
Even a small one will have huge benefits for wildlife.
- Plant bare-root native hedging**
That will provide food and habitat for birds.

February

- Sow broad beans and peas under cover**
Chit early potatoes
Put seed potatoes in open egg boxes in a light and frost free space to start them into growth.
- Sow tomatoes and chillies indoors**
- Divide clumps of perennials and grasses to make more plants for free**
- Sow sweet pea in deep pots**
You can start them indoors but once they appear get them out into the cold.
- Add well rotted manure or compost to beds**
- Make fat ball feeders for birds**
Clear pond debris
leaving it on the side for a few days so any critters can escape back into the water.

March

- Plant onion and shallot sets**
Plant potatoes on St Patrick's day
- Sow carrot seeds thinly**
In raised beds to help avoid root fly.
- Prune Buddleia which will flower with growth**
- Sow tender annuals indoors like Dahlia mix**
It will give you a wonderful display in Summer.
- Plant summer flowering bulbs**
Like lilies and Crocosmia in containers.
- Plant wild flower seeds**
Like Ragged Robin, Red Campion and Cornflower in modules.
- Place hollow stems in sheltered corners**
To create habitat for insects.

April

- Plant out the broad beans**
Sow beetroot, lettuce, radish & spinach outside
- Keep on top of weeds germinating**
Around young veg plants.
- Sow sunflowers in pots for planting out later**
- Install water butts to capture April showers**
Plants will love this rain water when it warms up.
- Deadhead spring bulbs**
Let the leaves die back naturally.
- Add aquatic plants to ponds**
Like Iris and Marsh Marigold.
- Put a bag of barley straw in the pond**
To keep the water clear.

May

- Earth up potatoes**
This just means covering the shoots with compost.
- Harden off courgettes before they are planted**
Put out during the day and under cover at night.
- Sow sweetcorn in deep pots**
For planting out in June.
- Sow biennials like foxgloves**
Which will flower next year.
- Pinch out the tips of bedding plants**
More side shoots means more flowers.
- Sow Californian poppies in gaps or dry ground**
Keep it moist until they are established.
- Make a dandelion patch**
They are great for butterflies.
- Make sure you have plenty of spring nectar**
From plants like lilac, primula and bluebells.

June

- Water fruit and veg in containers regularly**
In the garden do it weekly – call it 'Thirsty Thursday.'
- Use tomato feed on tomatoes, chillies etc.**
You can also use it on flowers.
- Tie in cane fruit**
- Flowers in containers will need fed by June**
Do it weekly on a Friday as 'Feeding Friday.'
- See what plants need support**
Tie to canes if necessary
- Deadhead flowering plants as blooms fade**
- Plant Common Boneset (Eupatorium) and Tall Verbena (Verbena bonariensis)**
To attract butterflies
- Make sure you have a 'hedgehog highway'**
By leaving a hog size hole in any fencing.

July

- Pin runners from strawberry plants into pots**
So they root later in the year.
- Remove the top growth of broad beans**
Leave the roots in the soil they contain useful nitrogen
- Inspect every day for pests**
To be controlled before they do too much damage.
- Pick sweet pea every two days**
Do not allow them to go to seed.
- Plant autumn flowering bulbs like Spider Lillies (Nerines)**
- Remove any weeds before they set seed**
- Make or buy a home for solitary bees**
Make sure there are sources of water
- For birds to drink and bathe in.**

August

- Lift onions and shallots once the tops die down**
- Plant out the rooted strawberry runners**
Into new beds or pots for next year
- Sow winter salad leaves**
- Collect seed as they ripen on flowers**
- Trim lavender after flowering**
Don't cut into woody stems
- Begin sowing hardy annuals for next year**
- Leave seed heads on plants for wild birds**
Create a home of frogs

September

- Remove fruit canes of raspberries**
- Harvest apples and pears**
Cook and freeze what you can't eat fresh.
- Dry chillies for use during the winter**
- Keep feeding, watering and deadheading**
To maintain displays as long as possible
- Plant wallflower for spring colour**
- Take cuttings from salvias**
- Make sure there are late flowering**
Like Sedum and salvias (sages).
- Clean out bird boxes**

October

- Finish harvesting French beans**
Leave a few pods to ripen so you can save seed.
- Take cuttings of rosemary and thyme**
- Tidy up veg plots**
Pests and diseases can harbour in old leaves.
- Plant spring flowering bulbs**
Like daffodils and snakes head fritillaries
- Empty summer containers into the compost**
- Use heather and winter pansies**
In pots for a winter display
- Build a log wall in the garden**
Very decorative and perfect for wildlife
- Leave areas of ivy to flower and fruit**

November

- Take hardwood cuttings**
From currants and gooseberries to make more plants.
- Support top heavy Brussels**
- Parsnips taste better after frost**
Harvest from now.
- Plant tulip bulbs in pots**
- Lift & store dahlia tubers in moist compost**
Keep them dark and cool but not frozen over winter.
- Fill bin bags with damp fallen leaves**
Leave out of sight to produce valuable leaf mould.
- Plant trees**
Crab apples and Rowans are natural food sources.
- Bare root roses are available**
Single flowered varieties are great for pollinators.

December

- Lift and divide large clumps of rhubarb**
- Plant thornless blackberries**
- Spread manure or mushroom compost**
On beds for the worms to take down.
- Grow Winter box (Sarcococca) and Winter sweet (Chimonanthus)**
For scent.
- Plants in pots are more vulnerable to cold**
Bring the outdoors, indoors at Christmas
- With evergreen foliage and shrubs with berries.**
- Put a ball in your pond**
Can be removed to make an air hole when frozen.
- Feed the birds regularly**
Through the colder months.