GARDEN CHECKLIST

November in the Garden

a checklist for the turn of the year



The last leaves are down and the ground is cooling. Check off what you get done, then jot notes for next year at the bottom.

Plant and pot

- [ ] **Plant spring bulbs** (tulips, daffodils, crocus, and hyacinths) until the ground freezes.
- [ ] **Cover new bulb beds** with chicken wire or a layer of leaves so squirrels can't dig.
- [ ] **Plant garlic cloves** now for a harvest next summer.
- [ ] **Pot up amaryllis and paperwhites** for holiday blooms. Amaryllis takes 6 to 10 weeks.
- [ ] **Warm zones (8 to 10):** set out pansies and snapdragons, and sow lettuce and spinach.

Protect

- [ ] **Water evergreens deeply** before the ground freezes.
- [ ] **Mulch perennials** after the first hard freeze, not before.
- [ ] **Wrap young tree trunks** to guard against rabbits and winter sunscald.
- [ ] **Bring in tender herbs** and potted plants to a sunny window.
- [ ] **Store clay pots** indoors so they don't crack in a freeze.

Leave for wildlife

- [ ] **Leave seed heads standing:** coneflowers, black-eyed Susans, and grasses feed finches all winter.
- [ ] **Rake leaves into the beds** instead of bagging them. They shelter insects and feed the soil.
- [ ] **Start a brush pile** in a back corner for birds to hide in.
- [ ] **Set out a heated birdbath** before the first freeze.

Clean up and store

- [ ] **Drain and coil the hoses,** and shut off outdoor faucets.
- [ ] **Clean, sharpen, and oil** your tools before putting them away.
- [ ] **Empty and scrub containers** and seed trays.
- [ ] **Dry, label, and store** any seeds you saved.

My garden this month

First hard frost: _____

Bulbs planted: _____

Last bloom of the year: _____

Birds at the feeder: _____

Notes for next year

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