

### Raised Beds

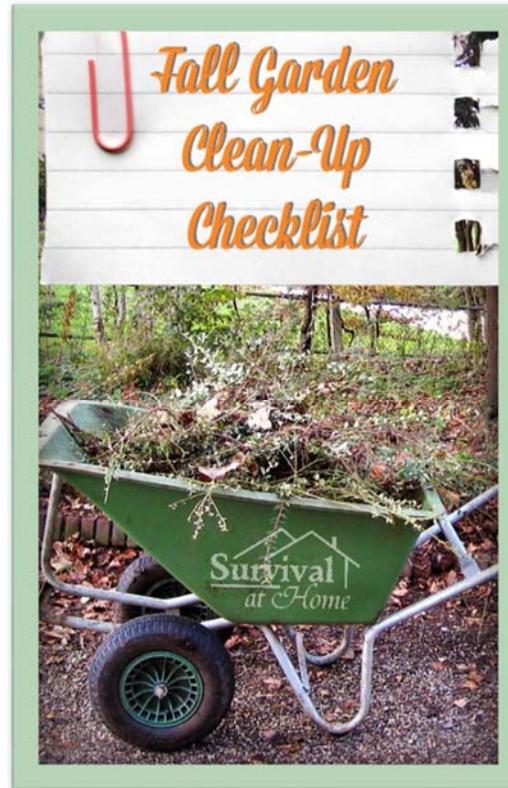
- Prepare covers/cold frames for fall, winter, and early spring cold-season vegetables.

### Make a Pruning Plan

- Determine which trees and shrubs should be pruned in winter (while dormant).
- Mark them with ribbons if needed.
- Put a reminder in your calendar.

### Jot Down Ideas for Next Year

- What worked in the garden this year?
- What do you want to change?
- Take some final notes and photos for planning during the winter.



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# FALL GARDENING CHECK LIST



## 6+ Weeks Before Frost

- Sow fall veggies and cold-loving spring flower seeds.
- Plant trees and shrubs.
- Divide/move late-flowering perennials (coneflowers, hostas, black-eyed Susans). Leave the seed heads for the birds.
- Harvest fruit, nuts, and veggies

## Month Before Frost

- Plant spring bulbs, garlic, rhubarb.
- Use winter-hardy tags to mark plants.
- Collect seeds.
- Cut grass. (Use mulched leaves to improve soil.)
- Weed garden beds.
- Start forcing bulbs indoors (amaryllis can take 6-8 weeks).
- Continue watering trees and garden until ground freezes.

## Tender Roots, Bulbs, and Plants

- Dig up and store dahlia, caladium, cannas, gladiolas, elephant ears, and begonia tubers.
- Bring tropical and other tender plants inside (including non-hardy succulents, potted fig trees, and zonal geraniums).
- Take sweet potato vine cuttings.



## Shed / Storage

- Organize shed for easy access to any supplies needed during the winter (shovels, backup pump for pond, outdoor lights...)

## Tools

- Clean, sharpen, and store tools.

## Water Features and Sources

- Empty and store garden hoses, fountains, rain barrels.
- Winterize pond. Clean out debris. Remove tropical plants. Clean and lower pump. Have back-up pump and floating water heater ready.
- Clean out eavestrough gutters and downspouts. Ensure good water flow.
- Insulate and shut off outdoor faucets.

## Winter Protection

- Prepare burlap or plywood wind barriers for plants, shrubs, and trees susceptible to harsh winds and ice.



## Winter Storage

- Empty, clean, and store planters
- Put away cold-sensitive (breakable) garden art.
- Wash and store glass bird feeders.
- Clean, cover, and store outdoor furniture.

## Dispose (DO NOT COMPOST)

- Remove and do not compost diseased plants, leaves, and other garden debris.

## Wildlife

- Wash and prepare winter bird feeders, suet cases, water sources.
- Protect shrubs, young trees and bulbs from squirrels, rabbits, and deer.

## Lawn / Mulch / Compost

- Use your leaves! Grind them down with the lawnmower. They are excellent for lawn and garden mulch and leaf mold.
- Cover bare garden beds with mulch and compost, OR grow cover crops or green manures.
- Turn and water compost pile.
- Add browns or greens as needed.
- Set up a winter compost bin.

