



Month By Month Maintenance Calendar

January

- Complete a soil test before tree planting. Recommended to be done every 3 years.
- Clean tools, sharpen tools and prepare for the season.
- Fertilize trees with slow-release organic fertilizer (can be done between January and March)
- Water the trees if the month is dry and warm.

February

- Prune apples and pears. Prune for structure, airflow, and remove dead or diseased wood.
- Spray dormant oil on fruit trees.

March

- Expand mulch rings on trees.
- Plant new trees and berries.
- Remove tree wraps at the end of the month.

April

- Watch for signs of insect and disease issues.
- Pinch off fruits/flowers on all newly planted trees under 2 years old to encourage root and shoot growth.

- Begin weekly watering regimen, if it does not rain.

May

- Protect peach tree trunks from borers: spray neem, wrap with window screen, and plant chives or garlic near the trees' base.

July

- Water weekly throughout the growing season if it does not rain at least 1 inch.

August

- Prune water-sprouts and root-suckers on apples and pears. Also, prune to stunt tree growth if desired, including topping tree height.

September

- Watch for borer damage on peach and cherry and other stone fruit trunks, dig out borers, and spray area with Neem.
- Apply milky spore or predator nematodes for Japanese beetles.

November

- Wrap new trees with tree wrap to prevent rabbits and other rodents from chewing bark.

- Mow around trees to chop leaves and remove pest habitat.
- Aerate soil and add new compost around tree.

December

- Add fresh mulch.
- Water if dry and temperatures are staying above freezing.