

# Bobby & Lynn's Plant Farm

*Real Plants. Real People. Real Passion.*

## SEASONAL GARDEN CHECKLIST

### SPRING

Year \_\_\_\_\_

Garden Area \_\_\_\_\_

Seasonal reminder: Finish major planting and transplanting before Southern summer heat settles in.

- Walk the garden and remove winter debris, fallen branches, and damaged growth.
- Test the soil if needed and add compost or recommended amendments.
- Prune summer-blooming shrubs that flower on new wood before active growth begins.
- Avoid pruning spring-blooming shrubs until after they finish flowering.
- Check irrigation hoses, timers, emitters, and outdoor faucets for leaks or damage.
- Refresh mulch, keeping it a few inches away from trunks and plant crowns.
- Divide crowded perennials and transplant them before hot weather arrives.
- Plant shrubs and perennials early enough to establish roots before summer heat.
- Begin monitoring for weeds, insects, and signs of disease.
- Clean and sharpen pruners, loppers, shovels, and other garden tools.

### NOTES

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### SUMMER

Year \_\_\_\_\_

Garden Area \_\_\_\_\_

Seasonal reminder: Watch the weather, not just the calendar, and adjust watering after meaningful rainfall.

- Water deeply and less often, adjusting for rainfall, soil type, and plant needs.
- Check newly planted shrubs frequently during hot, dry weather.
- Water early in the morning and aim water toward the root zone.
- Maintain a 2- to 3-inch mulch layer to help conserve moisture and suppress weeds.
- Deadhead repeat-blooming plants when appropriate to encourage continued flowering.
- Monitor hydrangeas and other shrubs for heat stress, wilting, pests, and leaf spots.
- Pull weeds before they flower and spread seed.
- Avoid heavy pruning or fertilizing during extreme heat.
- Support or stake plants that are leaning or damaged by storms.
- Take photographs and notes of plant performance for future garden planning.

### NOTES

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### FALL

Year \_\_\_\_\_

Garden Area \_\_\_\_\_

Seasonal reminder: Fall is one of the best times to establish many shrubs in Southern gardens.

- Plant trees, shrubs, and hardy perennials while the soil is still warm.
- Continue watering new plantings until the ground becomes consistently cool.
- Remove diseased leaves and plant debris; leave healthy habitat where appropriate.
- Divide or move suitable perennials after the hottest weather has passed.
- Collect seeds from favorite plants and label them clearly.
- Add compost to empty beds and top up mulch where needed.
- Clean bird feeders, birdbaths, garden containers, and outdoor decorations.
- Drain or winterize irrigation equipment before freezing weather.
- Protect tender plants or move containers to a sheltered location.
- Make notes about plants to add, move, replace, or remove next year.

### NOTES

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### WINTER

Year \_\_\_\_\_

Garden Area \_\_\_\_\_

Seasonal reminder: Use the quiet season to plan, maintain tools, and verify pruning requirements before cutting.

- Inspect the garden after storms and remove broken or hazardous branches.
- Water evergreens and newly planted shrubs during extended dry periods when soil is not frozen.
- Avoid walking on frozen lawns or compacting wet garden soil.
- Check mulch depth and protect exposed roots without piling mulch against stems.
- Clean, oil, sharpen, and store garden tools in a dry place.
- Review plant tags, garden notes, and photographs from the past season.
- Plan new beds, measure planting areas, and prepare a plant shopping list.
- Order seeds or reserve hard-to-find plants before spring demand increases.
- Prune dormant plants only when the correct timing for that plant is known.
- Enjoy winter interest from bark, stems, seed heads, evergreens, and garden structure.

### NOTES