

Landscape Calendar: Prescott, Prescott Valley, Chino Valley

Note: Average maximum and minimum temperatures are based on 30 year Prescott averages.

JANUARY

Avg Temps: Max = 57.1° F; Min = 27.7° F

Maintenance

- Water evergreens monthly, deciduous plants every 6-8 weeks now through March; established trees to a depth of 3 ft and shrubs to depth of 2 ft
- Prune evergreens now to minimize sap and resin flow from branches
- Mulch to conserve soil moisture
- Protect frost-tender plants from freezing (cover plants or move containers to a protected location)
- Roses: clean up debris around canes; mulch to protect from freezing; water if no rain or snow

Planting

- Sow seed indoors for transplanting when outdoor temperatures moderate
- Cold-moist stratify seeds for later sowing

FEBRUARY

Avg Temps: Max = 56.6° F; Min = 30.3° F

Maintenance

- Clean and repair drip irrigation systems
- Prune deciduous trees
- Prune shrubs that bloom after June
- Do not prune plants that have frost damage; a late frost could cause further damage
- Protect frost-tender plants from freezing
- Remove pine, cypress, and junipers killed by bark beetle before they become active again in spring

Planting

- Prepare soils for early spring seeding/planting by adding well-composted organic matter (add nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizers at planting time)
- Plant bare-root trees, shrubs, and roses
- Plant container-grown landscape plants now through March

MARCH

Avg Temps: Max = 59.4° F; Min = 31.7° F

Maintenance

- Adjust irrigation if necessary
- Prune roses
- Continue pruning shrubs that bloom after June
- Cut ornamental grasses back to new growth
- Apply dormant oil before leaf emergence to help manage scale insects, aphids, and mites on deciduous trees and shrubs
- Clean up frost-damaged/dead portions of perennials

Planting

- Divide and re-plant summer and fall blooming perennials now through April
- Sow seeds indoors for transplanting
- Sow seeds of perennials that germinate in cold temperatures (e.g. penstemon) and sow seeds of cool-weather annuals (e.g. larkspur) outdoors
- Plant bare-root trees, shrubs, and roses
- Plant wildflower seeds 1 month before last hard frost
- Plant container-grown landscape plants
- Plant spring annuals for color (e.g. pansies, poppies, primroses, kale, snapdragons, violas, etc.)
- Transplant dormant trees and shrubs and water transplants weekly if no rain or snow

APRIL

Avg Temps: Max = 67.5° F; Min = 37.9° F

Maintenance

- Divide plants, fertilize, and water as in March
- Protect tender plants from frost
- Fertilize roses after leaves emerge
- Fertilize cool-season turf grasses
1/2 lb N/1000 sq ft



- Apply pre-emergent herbicide to ground covers and cool-season grasses to control summer annual weeds
- Replenish mulch
- Watch for insects such as aphids and white flies
- Pull, hoe, or spray cool-season weeds before they go to seed

Planting

- Plant pasture grasses and alfalfa

MAY

Avg Temps: Max = 77.6° F; Min = 47.0° F

Maintenance

- Adjust irrigation controllers for warmer temperatures and plant growth
- Prune to remove winter damage
- Dethatch tall fescue and perennial rye (rarely needed), follow with reseeding
- Fertilize cool-season turf 1/2 lb N/1000 sq ft
- Apply mulch as days get hotter
- Watch for aphids and cutworms
- Check shrubs such as juniper and pyracantha for spider mites; control by washing dusty foliage now through August
- Check undersides of elm leaves for elm leaf beetle
- Promote beneficial insects by minimizing insecticide use and growing a variety of flowers and shrubs

Planting

- Sow seeds of frost-tender annuals (e.g. cosmos, marigold, zinnia) now through June
- Plant seedlings started indoors (wait until mid-month)
- Plant warm-season annual flowers (e.g. marigolds, zinnias, petunias, etc.)

JUNE

Avg Temps: Max = 86.1° F; Min = 56.5° F

Maintenance

- Prune climbing roses after bloom
- Prune or remove spent blooms from spring blooming shrubs after bloom (e.g. forsythia, lilac, wisteria)
- Summer prune plants that tend to sucker when young
- Fertilize warm-season turf now through July (don't fertilize cool-season turf now through August)
- Feed roses with a complete, balanced fertilizer (follow product directions for fertilizing frequency through summer)
- Feed and prune flowering shrubs after bloom
- Collect seeds of early flowering plants now through July

- Remove faded blooms to prolong flowering
- Mow early-flowering meadows as hot weather reduces flowering and seeds ripen; cut to 6 in. - 12 in.
- Allow wildflowers to go to seed for next year's crop
- Check shrubs such as junipers and pyracantha for spider mites
- Check for damage from grasshoppers, aphids, caterpillars, and other insects
- Monitor roses for fungal disease and treat with fungicide
- Mulch plants to minimize evaporation loss and to prevent annual weed growth

Planting

- Sow seeds of heat-loving plants now through August
- Plant warm-season grasses (e.g. buffalo, blue grama) now through August & fertilize 1/2 lb N/1000 sq ft
- Consider killing and removing conventional warm-season turf and planting drought-tolerant species such as blue grama or buffalograss

JULY

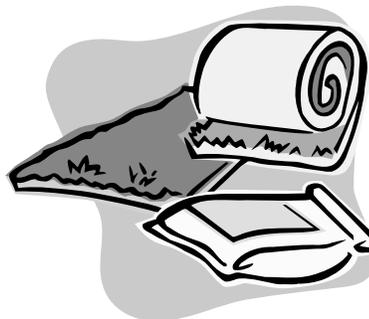
Avg Temps: Max = 87.5° F; Min = 61.3° F

Maintenance

- Continue to deep water to a depth of 3 ft for trees and 2 ft for shrubs until the monsoon rains begin
- Adjust automatic irrigation controllers to compensate for monsoonal moisture
- Check drip systems to ensure not clogged and appropriately placed for plant size (out to drip line on trees and large shrubs)
- Divide iris and day lilies when finished blooming and remove seed pods
- Collect and sow seeds as noted in June
- Dethatch / aerify warm-season turfs if needed

Planting

- Plant and fertilize warm-season lawns (1/2 lb N/1000 sq ft)



AUGUST

Avg Temps: Max = 84.7° F; Min = 59.4° F

Maintenance

- Divide spring-blooming perennials if needed
- Remove blossoms from roses and flowering shrubs to stimulate re-bloom
- Remove annual weeds (tumbleweeds) at ground level before seeds set
- Fertilize warm-season turf 1/4 lb N/1000 sq ft

Planting

- Begin planting rye, tall fescue, Kentucky bluegrass, winter barley, wheat, oats, alfalfa, and pasture grasses
- Sow perennial seeds for flowering next year (some will germinate in April)

SEPTEMBER

Avg Temps: Max = 82.4° F; Min = 53.4° F

Maintenance

- Decrease volume and frequency of watering as rains and cooling temperatures reduce need
- Remove weeds before they go to seed
- Stop fertilizing roses by month end
- Fertilize tall fescue and perennial rye 1 lb N/1000 sq ft now and again in October
- Apply pre-emergent herbicide to ground covers and cool-season turf to control winter annual weeds
- Apply glyphosate herbicides to control warm-season perennial grasses (e.g. bermudagrass, johnsongrass)
- Dethatch cool-season turf (if needed) now through October
- Clean up yard by removing dead and unproductive plants

Planting

- Divide spring and early summer blooming perennials every 2 to 4 years
- Seed next year's wildflowers now through December
- Plant spring and early summer blooming bulbs 4 to 6 weeks before the first hard frost
- Plant cool-season turf and pasture grass mixtures

OCTOBER

Avg Temps: Max = 71.6° F; Min = 41.3° F

Maintenance

- Decrease watering
- Water and mulch to protect from frost
- Fertilize tall fescue and perennial rye 1 lb N/1000 sq ft
- Fertilize Kentucky bluegrass 2 lb N/1000 sq ft
- Apply pre-emergent herbicides to control cool-season weeds in gravel, ground covers, and turf
- Clean up summer garden

Planting

- Plant cool-season flowers (e.g. pansies, snapdragons)
- Plant winter barley, rye and wheat for spring pasture and grain crops
- Plant a cover crop to build up soil organic matter - use rye, oats, barley, or fava beans

NOVEMBER

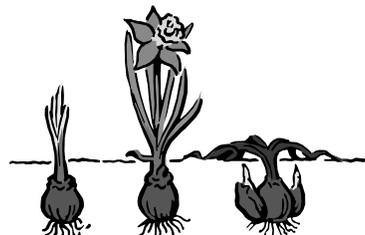
Avg Temps: Max = 58.1° F; Min = 29.0° F

Maintenance

- Decrease irrigation schedule (same amount of water, but less frequently)
- Cut back late blooming perennials
- Mulch bare ground to control cool-season weeds; will also minimize frost heaving caused by freezing and thawing
- Protect frost tender plants from freezing
- Compost grass clippings and leaves

Planting

- Plant bare-root deciduous plants from sources at least as cold as your site now through March
- Continue planting winter grains
- Transplant evergreens



DECEMBER

Avg Temps: Max = 54.4° F; Min = 23.8° F

Maintenance

- Start winter watering schedule (see January)
- Finish yard and garden clean-up
- Hot compost debris to kill over-wintering insect eggs and weed seeds
- Spread clean mulch
- Protect frost tender plants from freezing by covering or moving containers to a protected location



Planting

- Transplant deciduous trees now through March (when dormant)

Prescott: Earliest spring freeze (28.5° F) date is March 23rd; latest date is May 12th.
Earliest fall freeze (32.5° F) date is Oct 4th; latest date is Nov 16th.

Chino Valley: Earliest spring freeze (28.5° F) date is March 22rd; latest date is May 30th.
Earliest fall freeze (32.5° F) date is Sep 20th; latest date is Nov 7th.

Western Regional Climate Center: <http://www.wrcc.dri.edu> contains historical data, including freeze date probabilities.

Note: The average growing season in Prescott is 140 days.

Fruit and vegetable calendars:
Yavapai County Vegetable Planting Dates, Bulletin #51
Fruit Calendar for Yavapai County, Bulletin #76

Updated August 1, 2007

<http://cals.arizona.edu/yavapai>

Includes information from archived Bulletin #20, Field and Garden Calendar for Prescott, Prescott Valley, Chino Valley

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