

Renfrow Hardware

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Poor Renfrow's Almanac

*"Remember, there's a smart,
redneck way to fix anything!"*

Holiday Calendar for your Garden of Eatin'

There is *something to plant* and *something to eat* in your Garden of Eatin' 365 days of the year.

New Year's Day

Cook collards. Scratch in onions. Plant blueberries, raspberries, blackberries, fruit trees, scuppernongs, etc. Prune fruit trees and grape vines. Eat your last ripe tomato from fall (ask David how!) Eat the brussels sprouts, broccoli, beets and carrots that you planted in the fall.

Super Bowl Weekend

Earliest starting of indoor seeds: tomatoes, peppers, eggplant. Cook up a pot of greens and make a spinach salad to go with your chips and beer! Pop up a skillet of homegrown popcorn.

Valentine's Day

Plant sugar peas, onions, fruits and berries, Irish potatoes, and asparagus. Direct seed root crops, lettuce, kale, and spinach into garden, and set out broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, and collard transplants.

ACC Tournament

Start tomato, pepper, and eggplant seeds inside. Cut down cover crops so soil can begin to dry out. You should still be enjoying some collards, Brussels sprouts, lettuce and spinach from your fall planting. Put up your walls of water for your tomatoes that you started indoors during Super Bowl weekend. Plant lettuce and spinach for a short harvest season before spring planting hits, and kale and Swiss chard for greens through midsummer.

Good Friday

Traditional planting day in the south. Good zodiac signs. However, often too cool when Easter falls early (late March-early April). Arrival of baby chicks at Renfrow's - will receive chick deliveries every week in April and May. First planting of sweet corn.

Tax Day

Most everything can be planted by seeds or plants, though it may be a little cool at night for cukes, eggplant, and okra seed. Second planting of sweet corn.

May Day

Replant after your “frost god” sacrifices (those tomato and pepper plants that weren’t protected when the late frost came around). Plant sweet potato plants. Second planting of tomatoes. Best to wait to plant pepper plants & okra seeds now. Harvest large sweet onions. Early garlic harvest.

Memorial Day

Traditional planting day for our transplanted Yankee customers. Planting and weeding is in full swing. Really good gardeners have picked their first ripe tomato. Squash should be coming in nicely.

Last Day of School

Third planting of tomatoes and last planting of sweet corn. Leave excess zucchini on neighbors’ porches. Should be harvesting and drying herbs by now, before they begin blooming. You should be eating your first picking of green beans.

Fourth of July

Most folks should be eating maters by now and some sweet corn if you are good! Last planting of squash and zucchini. Any later and worms get into the fruit. Great time to plant Crowder peas. Harvest in August and September when you are sick of eating green beans. Start leek, onion, and broccoli seeds in cups. Last chance for planting tomatoes. Lima beans and butter peas are in full swing.

Dog Days

Vegetarian Month: Who wants meat when there are beans, okra, corn, eggplant, maters, peas, squash, corn, more maters...well, you get it. August maters make the best juice. You should be canning everything in sight! Plant fall turnips before Labor Day. Try to plant some of your broccoli, Brussels sprouts, and other cole crops in the early days of August because the increased sunlight will help them grow faster. Stagger these plantings so that your harvest is also staggered.

Labor Day through Halloween

Plant mixed greens, beets, sugar peas, cover crops, collards, broccoli, cauliflower, spinach, brussels sprouts, swiss chard, onions. Earlier planted crops will be enjoyed in the fall, and later ones in early spring. Dig sweet potatoes and harvest pumpkins and remaining green tomatoes before frost. Gather the first eggs from your spring chickens that are now around 6 months old.

Thanksgiving

Your greens have had a few good frosts on them. Now it’s time to put some of them in the freezer. Give thanks and gorge yourself on your sweet potatoes, collards, & turnips. Time to eat the turkey you raised. Who needs Harris Teeter these days! Start planting fruit trees, blueberries, blackberries, and raspberries. New packaged seeds will start arriving for Santa to pick up for stocking stuffers. Sow winter cover crops like clover, vetch, and rye in unplanted garden patches for soil-building during the winter months.

Christmas

Eat one cherished red tomato from the dozen on your kitchen windowsill with the cabbage, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, and green onions you just harvested from your garden. Make lemonade from your Meyer lemons whose tree has been moved indoors for the winter.