



# Kansas City Community Gardens

## The Giving Grove

### Fruit Management Calendar

January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete a soil test, recommended every 3 years</li> <li>• Sign up for membership at Kansas City Community Gardens</li> <li>• Clean tools, sharpen tools, prepare for the season</li> <li>• Fertilize trees with slow release organic fertilizer (now until March)</li> <li>• Water trees if the month is dry and warm</li> </ul>
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start dormant pruning with apples and pears and end with peaches: prune for structure, air flow, sunlight, fruit production, remove dead or diseased wood</li> <li>• Spray dormant oil on fruit trees</li> <li>• Mow down raspberry patch</li> <li>• Order new fruit trees and berries at <a href="http://www.kccg.org">www.kccg.org</a></li> <li>• Attend fruit selection and growing workshops at KCCG to expand your knowledge</li> <li>• Expand mulch rings on trees</li> </ul>
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plant new trees and berries</li> <li>• Tip prune blackberry laterals to 15" and remove all dead canes</li> <li>• Start spraying organic Holistic Spray regimen from bud swell to the week after petal fall (Do not spray while blossoms are open)</li> <li>• Remove tree wraps at the end of the month</li> </ul>
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue initial sprays</li> <li>• Watch for signs of insect and disease issue</li> <li>• Pinch off fruits/flowers on all newly planted trees under 2 years old to encourage root and shoot growth</li> <li>• Begin weekly watering regime if it does not rain</li> </ul>
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thin fruits leaving 6-8" between fruits on peaches, 4-6" for apples and pears. Do not allow them to touch!</li> <li>• Begin strawberry harvest</li> <li>• Apply Bt, Spinosad, or Holistic Spray to protect from Oriental Fruit Moth and Coddling Moth</li> <li>• Protect peach tree trunks from borers: spray neem, wrap with window screen and plant chives or garlic near the base of the tree</li> </ul>
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harvest serviceberries, cherries and early peaches like Harrow Diamond</li> <li>• Begin harvest of Natchez blackberries</li> <li>• Watch for and spray Spotted Wing Drosophila in berries and soft fruits</li> <li>• Remove brown rot in stone fruits, spray Sulfur as necessary</li> <li>• Watch for fire-blight on apples, pears and Asian pears; prune out any infection 6" below cankered bark</li> <li>• Protect fruits from Japanese Beetles using row cover or spray with Kaolin Clay and Neem (use a large volume trap for large turf areas)</li> <li>• Train young trees with limb spreaders</li> </ul>

July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rejuvenate June-bearing strawberries (late June/early July)</li> <li>• Continue harvesting blackberries</li> <li>• Freeze, can, and dehydrate peaches</li> <li>• Harvest early season apples like Pristine, and pears like Harrow Diamond and Shinsui</li> <li>• Start tipping new blackberry canes and tie to the trellis line now through Sept.</li> <li>• Remove blackberry canes that are done fruiting</li> <li>• Harvest second round of ever-bearing strawberries</li> <li>• Water weekly throughout the growing season if it does not rain at least 1 inch</li> </ul>
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prune water-sprouts and root-suckers on apples and pears, also prune to stunt tree growth if so desired</li> <li>• Harvest Asian pears: Kosui, Chojuro, Yoinashi; European pears: Sunrise, Blake's Pride, Potomac</li> <li>• Harvest European pears 1-2 weeks early because they do not ripen on the tree</li> <li>• Begin harvesting primocane (Caroline, Heritage) raspberries until hard freeze</li> </ul>
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look for the first Figs that will start to ripen if we have had a hot summer</li> <li>• Harvest Apples: Liberty, Jonafree, Enterprise</li> <li>• Harvest Pears, Asian Pears: Warren, Shinko, Korean Giant,</li> <li>• Harvest Jujubes and Pawpaws</li> <li>• Watch for borer damage on peach and cherry and other stone fruit trunks, dig out borers and spray area with Neem</li> <li>• Apply Milky Spore or Predator Nematodes for Japanese Beetles</li> </ul>
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harvest Apples: Sundance</li> <li>• Harvest Pears: Harrow Sweet, Kieffer</li> <li>• Dehydrate apple slices, make cider and pies</li> </ul>
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wrap new trees with tree wrap to prevent rabbits and other rodents from chewing</li> <li>• Cage blueberries to keep rabbits away</li> <li>• Mow around trees to chop leaves and remove pest habitat</li> <li>• Use fall Holistic Spray to help decompose leaves, and kill over-wintering fruit pests</li> <li>• Aerate soil and add ½-1" compost around tree drip-line</li> <li>• Spray fungicide to treat peaches for leaf curl</li> </ul>
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mulch over strawberry plants with 2-3" of straw (after hard freeze)</li> <li>• Mulch trees with 2-3" of wood chips in 18" radius around tree</li> <li>• Cage and insulate figs with 2-4' of leaves before temperatures get below 15°</li> <li>• Read Michael Phillips, Lee Reich and other fruit tree authors</li> <li>• Expand mulch rings on trees</li> <li>• Water if dry and temperatures are staying above freezing</li> </ul>