

Seasonal Activities at Home

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Seasonal Activities at Home

The year as it happens in the house, the kitchen, and the back garden — no car, no ticket, no opening hours. Central Ohio dates throughout.

Everything here is assembled from pages already on this site. Where the site has no record of something,

this page says so rather than filling the gap.

The number the rest of the page turns on is the frost window. [Central Ohio Monthly Planting](#) records **last frost around April 28 and first frost around October 9** for Columbus, noted against the Old Farmer's Almanac planting calendar for the city. That is 164 frost-free days — a little over five months in which anything tender can be outside, and the two dates that decide what most of the work below is for.

The other two scopes are [Seasonal Activities in Town](#) and [Seasonal Activities out of Town](#).

Spring — March to May

Spring is the busiest planting stretch the site documents, and the only one recorded month by month.

Month	Sow or set out
March	Brassicas, beets, lettuce, onion, garlic, peas, spinach, cold-hardy tomatoes
April	Spinach, radishes, carrots, chives
May	Lettuce, kale, tomatoes, peppers, sweet potatoes

March and April work is cold work. [Spring Planting](#) splits spring crops into two tolerance groups:

- **Light frost tolerant** — broccoli, cauliflower, celeriac, garlic, lettuce, mustard, onion, parsnip, radish, Swiss chard.
- **Frost tolerant** — beets, bok choy, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, Chinese cabbage, collard greens, endive, kale, kohlrabi, peas, rutabaga, spinach, turnips.

The May column is where April 28 shows up in practice: tomatoes, peppers and sweet potatoes are the first crops on the calendar a late frost would kill, which is why they sit after it.

Indoors. The seedlings that go out in May start inside. [Indoor Gardening](#) and [House Plants](#) cover the window-sill end of it; [Cold Hardy Garden](#) is the planning side for anything going out before the window opens.

Not recorded. There is no spring month-theme page. The site has only [September Theme](#) and [October Theme](#), so March, April and May carry a crop list and nothing else.

Summer — June to August

Month	Sow or set out
June	Pumpkin, squash, zucchini, beets, carrots, parsnips, potatoes
July	Lima beans, peppers, southern peas, tomatoes, cucumbers, okra
August	Not recorded

The August heading in [Central Ohio Monthly Planting](#) is empty — the heading exists with nothing under it, as does every heading from September to December. Filling those six months in is the most useful thing anyone could do to this part of the site.

Outside the back door. [outdoor cooking](#) is the summer half of [Cooking](#), and [Garden Meal Prepping](#) is the version where the ingredients came out of the beds rather than a bag.

Start preserving before the glut. Summer is when the preserving year begins rather than ends: [Canning](#), [jarred foods](#), [Drying Peppers](#) and [Pasteurizing](#) all sit in [Preservation](#), and [Preservation Steps](#) is the order to do them in.

Fall — September to November

The planting calendar stops in July, so fall at home is drawn from the month themes rather than a crop list.

September is a gathering month — harvest, preserve, save seed, and plan next year's beds ([September Theme](#)). October turns to protection: shelter tender plants, finish the harvest, mulch, winterize the house, and put in whatever fall crops still have time ([October Theme](#)). The October 9 first frost is the deadline both are really about, and it falls early enough that October garden work is mostly a first-week job.

Kitchen. This is the season the preserving notes were written for — [Root Cellar](#) and [winter cellars](#) for what keeps as it is, [Smoking and Curing](#) and [Curing with Salt](#) for what does not, [preserving eggs](#), and [Top Ten Best Meals to Freeze](#) for the freezer half.

House. Both month themes are as much about the building as the garden: reset a room and archive the summer in September, winterize and repair in October. [Home](#) and [DIY](#) hold the how.

Dated, and celebrated at home. From [Yearly Calendar 2026](#): [Halloween](#) on October 31 and [US Thanksgiving](#) on November 26, the fourth Thursday.

Winter — December to February

Winter growing splits between indoors and cold storage.

Month	Sow or set out
December	Not recorded
January	Indoors: microgreens, arugula, beet greens, mizuna, pea shoots
February	Lettuce, kale, peas

Outside, the crops that carry a central Ohio winter are the roots and the brassicas: alliums, napa cabbage, turnip and rutabaga, radish, carrots, beets, sweet potato, parsnips, bok choy, Brussels sprouts, collards, kale, kohlrabi, spinach and chard. [Winter Growing](#) has the full list, and the slow-kitchen end of it — garlic confit, black garlic confit, onion jam. [Cold Hardy Garden](#) covers the same ground from the planning side.

The indoor half of the year. Long evenings are what the media and games folders are for: [Film and TV](#), [Music](#), [Literature](#), [Games](#) and [board games](#). [Date night](#) sorts the same material by how far you are willing to go, and its Staying Home section is this one, written as an evening.

Keep moving. [Fitness](#) carries the indoor options — [Best home workout equipment](#), [best home strength workouts](#), [DIY gyms](#) — for the months when [running](#) outside is a decision rather than a default.

Dated, and celebrated at home. From [Yearly Calendar 2026](#): [Christmas Day](#) on December 25, [New Year's Eve](#) on December 31, [New Year's Day](#) on January 1, [Valentine's Day](#) on February 14, and Lunar New Year on February 17 in 2026 — the 2027 date is not on the site.

What this page is still missing

- **August through December planting.** Six empty headings in [Central Ohio Monthly Planting](#).
- **Spring and summer month themes.** Only September and October have theme notes; the other ten months have none.
- **Germination rates for January sowings.** An open to-do on the planting note, and the thing that would make the January indoor list usable.
- **Ohio-specific crop coverage.** [Everything You Can Grow In Ohio](#) is a title with no content — stacked frontmatter blocks left by an old bad merge.

Related

- [Seasons](#) — the hub these three pages hang off.
- [Seasonal Activities in Town](#) · [Seasonal Activities out of Town](#) — the same year, further from the house.
- [Central Ohio Monthly Planting](#) — the Columbus planting calendar this page is built on.
- [Spring Planting](#), [Winter Growing](#) and [Cold Hardy Garden](#) — the crop-tolerance lists behind the spring and winter sections.
- [Climate](#) and [Preservation](#) — the two folders most of this material came from.
- [Calendar](#) and [Holidays](#) — how a dated entry joins the site calendar.
- [Yearly Calendar 2026](#) — the observance dates quoted above.