



Putting the Garden to Bed: Resources

As of 9/23/25

[QR Code to WCMGA Education & Resources web page](#)

Garden Future: Garden Future is a statewide project of the OSU Extension Master Gardener Program. We're gathering stories, ideas, and local wisdom from gardeners like you—and sharing them back as practical tips, inspiring examples, and resources to help your garden thrive, no matter the weather. <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/garden-future>

Garden Future Resources: Resources for gardening in a changing climate: Great collection of research-based resources on developing climate resiliency <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/garden-future/resources-gardening-changing-climate>

Arbor Chips, Mulch, Covering the Soil

- **Miracle, Myth or Marketing? Wood Chip Mulch: Landscape Boon or Bane?** Linda Chalker-Scott, PhD. accessed at <https://s3.wp.wsu.edu/uploads/sites/403/2015/03/wood-chips.pdf>. Overview of wood mulch and discussion of benefits and low risks associated with arbor chips.
- **Mulching Woody Ornamentals with Organic Materials:** <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/catalog/files/project/pdf/ec1629.pdf>
- **No Till Gardening Keeps Soil and Plants Healthy:** [No-till gardening keeps soil – and plants – healthy | OSU Extension Service \(oregonstate.edu\)](#)

Sources for Free Arbor Chips-

- **Chip Drop** <https://getchipdrop.com/> Tip...Make a small donation and you may get a delivery more quickly. Understand how it works in terms of volume, delivery dates/times.
- Or ask your local arborist to drop chips at your home.

Lawn Care

- **Practical Lawn Establishment and Renovation** <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pub/ec-1550-practical-lawn-establishment-renovation>
- **Practical Lawn Care for Western Oregon**, Doug Voderberg and Alec Kowalewski, access at <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pub/ec-1521-practical-lawn-care-western-oregon>, 2018
- **Managing Moss in My Lawn**, Alec Kowalewski, video access at <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/video/managing-moss-lawns>, 2017

Planting

- **Guidelines for Planting Trees and Shrubs** <https://ag.umass.edu/landscape/fact-sheets/guidelines-for-planting-trees-shrubs> Step by step instructions for planting trees and shrubs.
- **Horticultural techniques for successful plant establishment** <https://s3.wp.wsu.edu/uploads/sites/2145/2015/06/Horticultural-Techniques-for-successful-plant-establishment.pdf>
- **Planting Shrubs Correctly** Planting Shrubs, Clemson Cooperative Extension. HGIC 1052 | Revised: Sep 9, 2020 <https://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheet/planting-shrubs-correctly/>

Pruning

- [The American Horticultural Society Pruning and Training: The Definitive Guide to Pruning Trees, Shrubs and Climbers](#), Know when to prune your plants—winter pruning blueberries, apples, red twig dogwood, smoke bush. If you don't know, do research to learn. Excellent resource Christopher Brickell and David Joyce, 2017
- [Garden Tool Care – Master Gardener Association of San Diego County \(mastergardenersd.org\)](#) Learn how to sharpen your own prunes, loppers, hedgers.

Soil Test

- **How do I test my garden soil** <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/soil-compost/how-do-i-test-my-garden-soil>
- **A Guide to Collecting Soil Samples from Farms and Gardens** <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/ec628>
- **How do I collect a soil sample for testing?** Video <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/video/how-do-i-collect-soil-sample-testing>

Support your Garden Ecosystem

- **Buying Bee Safe Plants**, Xerces Society Publication access <https://www.xerces.org/publications/fact-sheets/buying-bee-safe-plants>
- **How to Create Habitat for Stem Nesting Bees** https://xerces.org/sites/default/files/publications/22-005_01_web-press.pdf
- **Leave the leaves** <https://xerces.org/leave-the-leaves>
- **Backyard Habitat Certification Program** <https://backyardhabitats.org/> . Full of helpful resources for wildlife stewardship, native plants, noxious weeds and more.
- **Feed birds in Winter with berry-bearing plants:** <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/news/feed-birds-winter-berry-bearing-plants>
- **Maintain a Bee-Friendly Garden in Fall, and Winter Too!** <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/pollinators/maintain-bee-friendly-garden-fall-winter-too>

Weeds

- **Weed Identification Guide:** Green Street Stewards: Great resource for common weeds in the Portland area and best practices to remove. Also good photos of various stages of plant growth. <https://www.portland.gov/bes/green-street-stewards/documents/green-street-steward-weed-identification-guide/download>

General Resources

- **OSU Extension Services Metro Master Gardener website** <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/metro>
- **OSU Extension Service Knowledge Base.** A useful resource on a broad range of research-based gardening and horticulture topics. Searchable and many resources geared to the home gardener. Access at <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/topics>
- **OSU Extension Service Monthly Garden Calendar.** Produced by OSU Extension, each month provides reminders of key garden chores, such as fertilizing, pest control, planting, and maintenance. See additional links and as needed, contact local Extension Office for area specific information. <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/search?search=garden+calendar>
- **Horticultural Myths.** Many research-based articles focusing on common advice for gardeners, sometimes challenging them with new research. Hosted by Linda Chalker-Scott, Professor of Horticulture, WSU. <https://puyallup.wsu.edu/lcs/>

- [Backyard Habitat Certification Program](#). Collaboration of Portland Audubon and Columbia Land Trust. A unique program that supports urban gardeners in their efforts to create natural backyard habitats. Currently available in Clackamas, Clark, Multnomah, and Washington Counties.
- [Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District](#). Washington County services. Many online resources, educational webinars, and classes.

Putting Your Vegetable Garden to Bed – Resources

References for the Vegetable Garden Checklist

- **10 Minute University** topic “Fall Garden Maintenance” From: <https://clackamascountymastergardeners.org/10-minute-university/handouts/>
- **OSU Extension Service**, “Monthly Garden Calendars” From: <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/collection/monthly-garden-calendars>

Vegetable Gardens

- **Vegetable Gardening in Oregon** (this is a comprehensive, current resource). <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pub/ec-871-vegetable-gardening-oregon>
- **Winter Vegetable Gardening on Small Farms and Gardens West of the Cascades** (This publication is somewhat oriented to commercial growers but has some good take-aways for the home gardener as well). <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pub/pnw-548-winter-vegetable-production-small-farms-gardens-west-cascades>
- **Using Crop Rotation in Home Vegetable Garden** <https://hort.extension.wisc.edu/articles/using-crop-rotation-home-vegetable-garden-0/>
- **Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education: Free fact sheets on benefits of cover crops** <https://www.sare.org/news/free-fact-sheets-identify-broad-benefits-of-cover-crops/?highlight=cover+crops>
- **10 Minute University Cover Crops for Home Gardens** <https://clackamascountymastergardeners.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/cover-crops-for-home-vegetable-gardens.pdf>

Berry Care

- **Growing Blueberries in your Home Garden** <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pub/ec-1304-growing-blueberries-your-home-garden>
- **Growing Raspberries in your Home Garden** <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pub/ec-1306-growing-raspberries-your-home-garden>

Orchards

- **Training and Pruning your Home Orchard** <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pub/pnw-400-training-pruning-your-home-orchard>
- **Managing Diseases and Insects in Home Orchards** <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pub/ec-631-managing-diseases-insects-home-orchards>