

Garden Calendar

(provided by Cornell Cooperative Extension, Putnam County)

February

- Prune your grapes. Yes, there's usually one nice week in February where you can prune your grapes in your shirtsleeves while standing on snow. Pruning grape canes early prevents sap from flowing from cuts. See this wonderful publication or stop by the office to pick up a copy: "The Cornell Guide to Growing Fruit at Home."
<http://www.gardening.cornell.edu/fruit/homefruit.html>
- Plan your vegetable garden. What will you grow when? Will you grow from seed, cuttings, or plants?
- Inventory Seeds and get your seed starting equipment cleaned and ready. Be sure to look for sterile seed starting mix.
- Repair broken tool handles and garden equipment.
- Prune apple and pear trees February through April. (Prune peaches, plums and cherries when in flower or just after.) See the "Cornell Guide for Growing Fruit at Home," mentioned above.
- Repair arbors trellises and other outdoor structures.
- Prune back Ornamental grasses and Butterfly bushes (*Buddleia* sp.) to the height of 4-8". This also applies to Russian Sage (*Perovskia atriplicifolia*.) and Blue Mist Shrub (*Caryopteris clandonensis*) which is only marginally hardy in our area.