

BEAR CREEK GARDEN ASSOCIATION CALENDAR 2024

- Feb. 25** **Winter Potluck for Returning Gardeners –Gold Hill Mesa Community Center. 12:30 p.m. to 4. Details to be provided.**
- March 9** **Garden Class - "Growing Vegetables at the Charmaine Nymann Community Garden - Tips for Success." Bear Creek Nature Center.**
- April 13** **Orientation Meeting for New Gardeners – 10-11 a.m. at the Bear Creek Nature Center**
- April** **County tills the garden
Volunteers stake plots and define aisles**
- April 20** **Garden opens - weather permitting**
- Returning Gardeners check in at the garden between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon. Purchase keys and badges.**
- New Gardeners check in. Purchase keys and badges and can order straw. Onsite orientation (required). Gardeners will be scheduled in small groups starting at 1:00 p.m.**
- Planting begins - peas/spinach/lettuce/beets/kale/potatoes**
- May** **Water is turned on early in the month by the Parks Department
Average last killing frost is May 15th
Ladybugs and killdeer begin returning to the garden
Wind and cold protection essential for tender plants
Plant beans/corn/carrots after the soil warms up**
- May 25** **Plant and Tool Sale Bring extra plants and tools to donate between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m. Sale runs from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Proceeds go to the Goat Fund.**
- June** **Plant squash/cucumbers after Memorial Day (June 1)
Plant tomatoes/peppers/eggplant/basil (use cold protection)
Begin harvesting greens
Keep plot moist as heat increases; spread straw mulch
Daylight lengthens – garden is open until dark**

- June 15** After this date, the gates must be locked at all times
- July** Cheyenne Mountain Zoo and Colorado Springs Food Rescue both start picking up donated produce from tarps by the Truck Gate mid-month
Keep after weeds and bugs; plant late season peas and spinach.
- July 31** Last day to spread straw mulch on plots
- August** Danger of hail is greatest the first week of August
Shorter daylight – garden closes at dark
- August 11** **Summer Potluck.** Gold Hill Community Center, 12:30 p.m. to 4.
Details to be provided.
- September** Dumpsters arrive at Labor Day for garden refuse
Zoo and Food Rescue continue to pick up excess produce until gardens close. Frost is possible from mid-month – cover the tomatoes!
Continue harvesting greens and root crops
- Sept.-Oct.** Workdays: Sept. 21, Sept. 28, Oct. 5, 6, and 12

Average first killing frost is October 10, but often occurs in Sept.

Garden mix/manure is delivered to plots of gardeners who ordered it

All Plots must be cleared by the end of the day on October 12
- October 12** **Garden is closed at 4 p.m.**
- October 19** **Bear Creek Garden Association Annual Meeting** 2 p.m.
Location to be announced

Workdays are generally scheduled for the third Saturday morning each month. Special workdays are scheduled for final weekends of the season.

May 18
June 15
July 20
August 17

September 21
September 28
October 5, 6, 12