

# Easy SPRING



## Cleanup Checklist

- TAKE STOCK OF YOUR TOOLS**  
Early spring is the best time to check the overall condition of your gardening tools, especially those that have been left outside.
- CLEAN AND SHARPEN YOUR TOOLS**  
Properly maintained tools will not only help you in working more efficiently and safely in the garden but they will also last longer.
- TIDY UP THE YARD**  
While you are waiting for the soil to defrost and after it for the mud to dry in your planting beds, start sprucing up the rest of your yard.
- REMOVE WINTER MULCH**  
Once the temperature starts to warm up, you can remove any winter mulch or other protection you added over your plants last autumn.
- PULL DEAD ANNUALS**  
Annual flowers only live for one year in harsh climates, and won't grow back after winter, so you can pull them out of the ground and toss them into the compost bin.
- PULL WEEDS**  
Spring is the best time to start pulling the weeds out as they are easy to see before all the plants start filling in. Once you're done, cover the soil with a layer of mulch.
- PEST CONTROL**  
Spring is the time to use a preemergent herbicide on crabgrass, and timing is of the essence.
- CLEAN UP THE VEGETABLE GARDEN**  
Pull out any dead vegetable plants that you didn't get around to removing last year and try to remove as much of the plant debris as you can as well.
- EDGE GARDEN BEDS**  
Spring is the perfect time to edge your garden beds. Just clean them up before and remove the stray grass.
- BRUSH BACK LEAVES ON TOP OF PLANTS**  
You don't need to remove all of the leaves from your garden beds, just be sure to brush back any thick layers that are sitting on top of your plants.
- PRUNE SHRUBS**  
Early spring is a great time for pruning as it triggers new growth, and helps to prevent diseases, but don't prune spring blooming shrubs in the early spring.
- PREP THE BEDS FOR PLANTING**  
Once the ground is defrosted and the soil softens, start grooming your garden beds to bring them back to life.