

October

Home Maintenance Calendar

Fall foliage, with its brilliant array of colors, reminds us that shorter days and cooler nights are approaching. Maximize your home improvement time by focusing on these autumnal tasks.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			01 Remember: Continue to water plants if your autumn is dry	02	03	04 Weekend chore: Plant bulbs before frost begins 📍 Denver, CO
05 Project idea: Wash plastic pots for reuse next spring 📍 Minneapolis, MN	06	07 Call & schedule: Heating service pro	08	09	10	11 Weekend chore: Lay mulch for winter prep
12 Project idea: Make a bird feeder	13 COLUMBUS DAY	14 📍 Pittsburg, PA	15	16 📍 St. Louis, MO	17	18 Weekend chore: Clean and store garden tools
19	20	21 Call & schedule: Gutter cleaning contractor	22	23 📍 Cleveland, OH	24 📍 Chicago, IL	25 Project idea: Carve your pumpkins!
26 Weekend chore: Ensure front walk is safe and well-lit for trick-or-treaters	27	28	29 📍 Baltimore, MD	30	31 HALLOWEEN	

📍 Indicates first fall frost (50% probability)

Avoid Halloween Havoc

Halloween is a fun and festive occasion to play dress up, eat loads of sugar and host parties. Unfortunately, it's one of America's deadliest holidays. Stay safe this Halloween by being aware of the following safety hazards.

- **Opt for LED mini-lights** instead of candles
- **Turn on outdoor lights** and create a safe entrance to your home
- **Fill in holes** and remove tripping hazards from your yard
- **Check smoke alarms** and keep decorations away from flames
- **Chose flame-resistant costumes** and make sure your children wear reflectors, carry a flashlight and can see out of their masks

For more Halloween safety tips, visit [Porch.com](https://www.porch.com).

Store away garden tools and summer items

October tends to bring overnight frosts, which might cut down on your gardening time. This is a great month to clean and store your gardening tools over winter.

- 1 **Brush off extra dirt** from tools with a dry cloth.
- 2 **Fill a large bucket with sand** and add enough oil (such as motor oil or WD-40) to make the sand slightly damp.
- 3 **Plunge the tools in the oily sand to remove fine grit and dirt.** Tools that are hinged should be taken apart first.
- 4 **Store your hand tools in this bucket** with the handles up or hang your tools on a peg. However you store your tools, keep them up off the ground and don't stack them. Protect sharp edges (like saws) with a piece of protective foam.

For more information on winterizing your home, visit [Get Advice](https://www.getadvice.com).