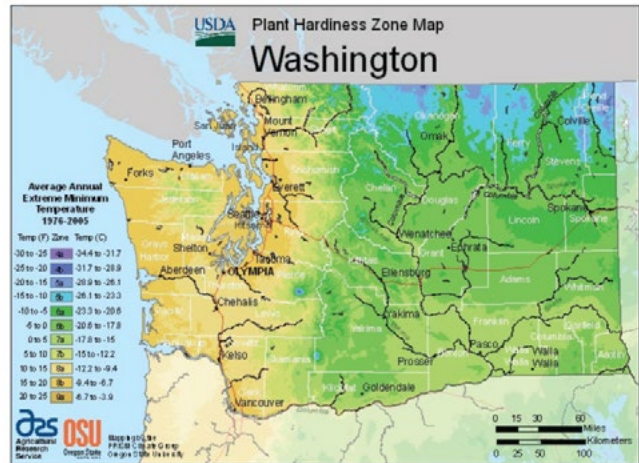


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Growing and Harvesting in Washington

Although Washington State is along the U.S.'s northern border, it actually has quite the range when it comes to USDA Hardiness Zones. Some may expect Washington to be a colder state, and parts of it are, but the USDA Hardiness Zones range from 4 to 9. The zones progress horizontally across the state, with the warmer zones on the western side and the cooler zones on the eastern side. The coldest zones are in the northeastern corner and along the northern border. First frost dates can be as early as late September and as late as late November. Last frost dates can be as early as late February to as late as mid-May.



Washington Planting Calendar on ufseeds.com

What to plant and when:

Since Washington has such a wide range of USDA Hardiness Zones, be careful on what you plant and when so you don't damage the crop.

Zone 4:

- **April:** Begin beets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, kale, onions, peas, peppers, spinach and tomatoes inside. Plant potatoes outside.
- **May:** Plant beets, broccoli, carrots, kale, lettuce, peas and spinach outside.
- **June:** Begin beans inside. Plant Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, onions, peppers and tomatoes outside. Begin corn, squash and cucumbers inside.
- **July:** Plant beans, corn, cucumbers and squash outside. Begin beets, broccoli, carrots, kale, lettuce and spinach inside.
- **August:** Plant beets, broccoli, carrots, kale, lettuce and spinach inside.

Zone 5:

- **March:** Begin broccoli inside.
- **April:** Begin beets, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach and tomatoes inside. Plant broccoli outside.
- **May:** Begin beans, corn, cucumbers and squash inside. Plant beets, broccoli, carrots, kale, lettuce, peas and spinach outside.
- **June:** Plant Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, onions, peppers and tomatoes outside.
- **July:** Plant corn, cucumbers and squash outside. Begin beets, broccoli, kale, lettuce, peas and spinach inside.
- **August:** Plant beets, broccoli, kale, lettuce, peas and spinach outside. Begin carrots inside.
- **September:** Plant carrots outside.

Zone 6:

- **March:** Begin beets, broccoli,



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cauliflower, kale, lettuce, onions, peas, spinach and other cool-weather crops inside at this time.

- **April:** Transplant beets, broccoli, cauliflower, kale, peas and spinach outdoors. Begin carrots, tomatoes and peppers inside.
- **May:** Transplant carrots and onions outdoors. Begin squash, corn, cucumbers, beans, Brussels sprouts and cabbage indoors.
- **June:** Transplant peppers and tomatoes outdoors.
- **July:** Transplant beans, cabbage, Brussels sprouts, corn, cucumbers and squash outdoors. Begin spinach, carrots, beets and broccoli indoors to start the fall harvest crops.
- **August:** Begin kale, lettuce, peas, carrots, broccoli and beets outdoors.
- **September:** Transplant kale, lettuce, peas, carrots, broccoli and beets outdoors.

Zone 7:

- **February:** Begin broccoli, cauliflower and peas indoors.
- **March:** Begin beets, cabbage, carrots, kale, lettuce, onions, peppers, spinach and tomatoes indoors. Near the end of March, transplant broccoli, carrots, peas and cauliflower outdoors.
- **April:** Transplant kale, lettuce and spinach outdoors. Begin beans and Brussels sprouts indoors.
- **May:** Transplant onions, peppers and tomatoes outdoors. Begin corn, cucumbers and squash indoors.
- **June:** Transplant beans, Brussels sprouts, corn, cucumbers and squash outdoors.
- **July:** Begin cabbage indoors.



[Vegetable seeds and plants available at ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)

- **August:** Begin beets, broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, peas and spinach indoors. Near the end of the month, transplant cabbage outdoors.
- **September:** Transplant beets, broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, peas and spinach outdoors for the fall harvest.

Zone 8:

- **February:** Begin beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach and tomatoes indoors.
- **March:** Transplant beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, peas and spinach outdoors. Begin beans indoors.
- **April:** Transplant onions, peppers and tomatoes outdoors. Begin Brussels sprouts, squash, corn and cucumbers indoors.
- **May:** Transplant Brussels sprouts, corn and cucumbers outdoors.
- **June:** Transplant beans and squash outdoors.
- **August:** Begin beets, broccoli, cabbage,



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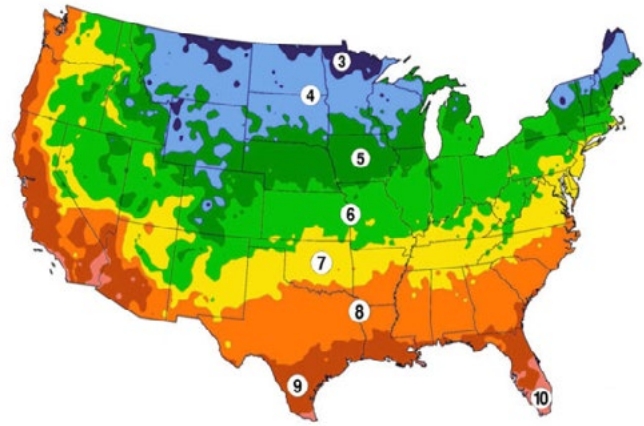
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carrots, cauliflower, kale and lettuce indoors.

- **September:** Transplant beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, kale and lettuce outdoors. Begin peas and spinach indoors.
- **October:** Transplant peas and spinach outdoors.

Zone 9:

- **January:** Begin broccoli, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach and tomatoes indoors.
- **February:** Begin beets, beans, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, corn and cucumbers indoors. Transplant beets, broccoli, cabbage, lettuce, peas and spinach outdoors.
- **March:** Transplant cauliflower, tomatoes, peppers, onions, cucumbers, corn carrots and beans outdoors. Begin Brussels sprouts and squash indoors.
- **April:** Transplant Brussels sprouts and squash outdoors.
- **July:** Begin peppers and tomatoes inside for a second season.
- **August:** Begin broccoli, corn and cucumbers inside.
- **September:** Begin beans, beets, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, lettuce and spinach indoors. Transplant peppers, tomatoes and broccoli outside.
- **October:** Transplant beets, beans, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, corn, cucumbers, lettuce and spinach outside. Begin peas and kale.
- **November:** Transplant peas and kale outside.



[USDA Hardiness Gardening Zone Finder on ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)

Washington's soil and how it affects agriculture:

Andisols: These soils are prevalent along the western border and in spots along the northern border. This soil contains volcanic ash and glass. This soil holds onto moisture and keeps phosphorous from benefiting the plants. Since phosphorous is important to cell growth in plants, raised beds with purchased soil may be necessary in these areas.

Mollisols: These soils take up a big chunk on the eastern half of the state. They are fertile soils and excellent for crop growth. Mollisols are darker in color than most soils.

Ardisols: These soils are present in a small patch in the center of the state. These are dry, desert-like soils without much organic content.

Ultisols: These soils are only present along the western border of the state. Ultisols are full of hard clay, and gardeners should



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amend the soil with lime and fertilizer to make it more usable for agriculture.

Inceptisols: These soils are intermittently spread along the northern border of the state. Inceptisols are the most common soil across the earth, and they have decent drainage. They can grow crops decently well.

Average rainfall in Washington:

Washington is generally known as receiving lots of rainfall throughout the year. That is true in some areas. Along the west coast, average annual rainfall varies from 24.9 inches in Friday Harbor to a whopping 119.7 inches a year in Forks. In the Cascade Mountains, average annual rainfall ranges from 45.9 inches a year in Mt. Adams Ranger Station to 118.3 inches a year in Mt. Rainier Paradise Ranger Station. In the eastern part of the state, average annual rainfall varies from a low 8.3 inches a year in Yakima to 28.1 inches a year in the Boundary Dam.

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