



# East Dean & Friston Gardening Club



## January Garden Tasks



### Sowing & Planting

- Sow sweet pea seeds under cover; pinch out tips when 10 cm tall.
- Start onion seeds indoors for transplanting later.
- Order seed potatoes, onion sets, and shallots ready for spring.

### Pruning & Cutting Back

- Prune apple and pear trees while dormant (not stone fruit).
- Cut back overgrown shrubs and hedges in mild spells.
- Remove dead, damaged, or crossing branches.





## Harvesting

- Lift remaining leeks, parsnips, and carrots as needed.
- Harvest winter cabbages, kale, Brussels sprouts, and sprouting broccoli.
- Check stored apples and potatoes; remove any that are rotting.

## Watering & Feeding

- Water houseplants and overwintered containers sparingly.
- Avoid waterlogging dormant plants in cold, dark conditions.
- Use rainwater from butts where possible.



## Greenhouse

- Ventilate on mild days to reduce condensation and mould.
- Clean and disinfect staging, glass, and pots ready for spring.
- Sow early salad crops in trays with heat.

## Houseplants

- Reduce watering; let compost dry slightly before rewatering.
- Keep plants away from cold draughts and frosty windowsills.
- Increase humidity with pebble trays or by grouping plants.



## Lawn Care

- Keep off frosty or waterlogged lawns to avoid damage.
- Clear debris, twigs, and leaves from the surface.
- Service the lawnmower ready for spring.

## General Maintenance

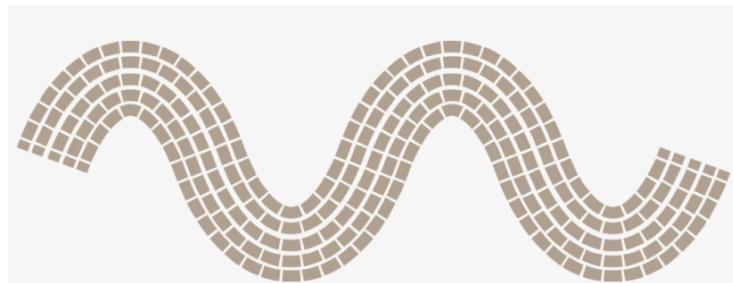
- Repair or replace broken garden tools and structures.
- Clean paths and patios to prevent slips in icy weather.
- Organise sheds and sharpen blades and secateurs.





### Wildlife & Ponds

- Keep bird feeders topped up; provide fat balls and seeds.
- Ensure fresh, unfrozen water daily for birds and animals.
- If ponds freeze, never break ice with force — melt a hole with a pan of hot water.



### Paths, Fences & Tools

- Check fences, trellis, and gates for storm damage.
- Pressure-wash slippery paths if weather allows.
- Apply preservative to sheds and fences on dry days.



### Planning & Admin

- Review last year's successes and failures.
- Plan crop rotations and make a sowing calendar.
- Order seeds, compost, and supplies early to avoid shortages.

### Leisure (And Finally...)

- Visit a winter garden or arboretum for inspiration.
- Take time to enjoy evergreens, bark, and winter scents.
- Relax indoors with seed catalogues and a warm drink.

