



Four Seasons: The Small Space Cutting Garden

Month-by-Month Bloom Calendar for the Pacific Northwest
WOODINVILLE GARDEN GROUPELLET • 3x6 FT CUTTING GARDEN • 2026

JANUARY WINTER

Plant	Type	Cutting Notes
Hellebores	<i>Perennial</i>	Just opening — condition overnight before arranging
Sweet Box (Sarcococca)	<i>Woody Stem</i>	Peak fragrance — tiny white flowers, intensely scented
Winter Daphne	<i>Woody Stem</i>	Beginning to open; one stem perfumes a room
Rosemary	<i>Woody Stem</i>	Foliage filler; small blue flowers starting on warm days
Pansies	<i>Annual</i>	If planted in fall — short stems, charming in small vases

Garden tasks: Order ranunculus & anemone corms. Order dahlia tubers before they sell out. Review seed catalogs and place orders early.

FEBRUARY WINTER

Plant	Type	Cutting Notes
Hellebores	<i>Perennial</i>	Peak bloom — best cutting month for hellebores
Winter Daphne	<i>Woody Stem</i>	Peak bloom — intensely fragrant pink/white clusters
Pieris 'Cavatine'	<i>Woody Stem</i>	Pendulous white clusters just beginning to open
Sweet Box (Sarcococca)	<i>Woody Stem</i>	Continuing; also decorative dark berries
Rosemary	<i>Woody Stem</i>	Blue flowers on mild days; excellent foliage filler

Garden tasks: Plant ranunculus & anemone corms directly into bed. Start snapdragons indoors. Prepare bed with compost.

MARCH SPRING

Plant	Type	Cutting Notes
Hellebores	<i>Perennial</i>	Still going strong — last of the season
Ranunculus	<i>Bulb</i>	First blooms! Paper-thin petals in cream, peach, pink
Anemones	<i>Bulb</i>	Opening alongside ranunculus — purple, white, red
Pieris 'Cavatine'	<i>Woody Stem</i>	Full bloom — lily-of-the-valley-like clusters
Daffodils	<i>Bulb</i>	Early varieties opening — condition separately from other flowers

Garden tasks: Direct sow larkspur, sweet peas (if not done in fall). Transplant snapdragon seedlings to bed.

APRIL SPRING

Plant	Type	Cutting Notes
Ranunculus	<i>Bulb</i>	Peak bloom — most productive cutting month
Anemones	<i>Bulb</i>	Peak bloom — stunning with tulips in mixed arrangements
Tulips	<i>Bulb</i>	Main flush — cut when just showing color, before fully open
Daffodils	<i>Bulb</i>	Full bloom — condition in separate water for 24 hrs
Leucojum (Snowflake)	<i>Bulb</i>	Delicate white bells — naturalizes beautifully
Camassia	<i>Bulb</i>	Blue-violet spires beginning to open

Snapdragons *Annual* Cool weather keeps them thriving — cut when lowest 2 blooms open

Garden tasks: Plant dahlia tubers. Direct sow zinnias, cosmos indoors. Plant out sweet pea seedlings to trellis.

MAY SPRING

Plant	Type	Cutting Notes
Sweet Peas	<i>Annual</i>	Peak! Cut daily to keep producing — most fragrant this month
Peonies	<i>Perennial</i>	Opening — cut when bud feels like a soft marshmallow
Alliums	<i>Bulb</i>	Purple globes — excellent fresh and dried
Camassia	<i>Bulb</i>	Full bloom — striking blue-violet native spires
Tulips	<i>Bulb</i>	Late varieties still going; parrot tulips at peak
Larkspur	<i>Annual</i>	Blue and pink spires opening — cut before all florets open

Garden tasks: Direct sow zinnias, cosmos, sunflowers. Succession sow every 3 weeks. Begin staking dahlias.

JUNE SUMMER

Plant	Type	Cutting Notes
Peonies	<i>Perennial</i>	Last of the peonies — refrigerate buds to extend season
Lavender	<i>Perennial</i>	First flush — cut as buds just begin to open
Yarrow	<i>Perennial</i>	Opening — good fresh or dried; long vase life
Sweet Peas	<i>Annual</i>	Still productive but winding down as heat arrives
Larkspur	<i>Annual</i>	Peak — vertical blue, pink and white spires
Scabiosa	<i>Annual</i>	Pincushion flowers beginning — deadhead to keep producing
Sage (Salvia)	<i>Perennial</i>	Purple spires — good vertical filler

Garden tasks: Pinch dahlias for bushier plants. Begin succession sowing zinnias every 3 weeks. Stake gladiolus.

JULY SUMMER

Plant	Type	Cutting Notes
Dahlias	<i>Bulb</i>	First blooms! Harvest in early morning — vase life up to 7 days
Zinnias	<i>Annual</i>	Peak production begins — harvest when center is tight
Sunflowers (branching)	<i>Annual</i>	First stems ready — cut as petals just begin to unfurl
Cosmos	<i>Annual</i>	Prolific — cut daily; feathery foliage also useful
Lavender	<i>Perennial</i>	Peak — cut before half the florets open for longest vase life
Scabiosa	<i>Annual</i>	Productive — delicate pincushion blooms
Frosted Explosion Grass	<i>Annual</i>	Airy seed heads add movement to arrangements

Garden tasks: Deadhead zinnias and cosmos regularly. Feed dahlias with low-nitrogen fertilizer.

AUGUST SUMMER

Plant	Type	Cutting Notes
Dahlias	<i>Bulb</i>	Ramping up to peak — most productive month begins
Zinnias	<i>Annual</i>	Peak production — heat lovers at their best
Cosmos	<i>Annual</i>	Prolific — succession plantings coming into their own
Sunflowers (branching)	<i>Annual</i>	Successive flushes from staggered plantings
Scabiosa	<i>Annual</i>	Still going strong — deadhead faithfully
Celosia	<i>Annual</i>	Velvety plumes at peak — harvest and dry upside down
Frosted Explosion Grass	<i>Annual</i>	Peak — clouds of delicate seed heads

Garden tasks: Continue deadheading. Begin drying celosia and yarrow. Order spring bulbs for fall planting.

SEPTEMBER FALL

Plant	Type	Cutting Notes
Dahlias	<i>Bulb</i>	PEAK MONTH — most prolific; cut every 2-3 days
Japanese Anemone	<i>Perennial</i>	Opening beautifully — elegant nodding flowers
Cosmos	<i>Annual</i>	Still going strong before first frost
Zinnias	<i>Annual</i>	Continuing well into fall — productive until frost
Celosia	<i>Annual</i>	Excellent for fresh and dried cutting this month
Dusty Miller	<i>Perennial</i>	Silver foliage at its most striking as summer annuals wind down

Garden tasks: Plant tulip, allium, daffodil, ranunculus, anemone & leucojum bulbs. Order sweet pea seeds for fall sowing.

OCTOBER FALL

Plant	Type	Cutting Notes
Dahlias	<i>Bulb</i>	Still going! PNW frosts often hold off — don't dig too early
Japanese Anemone	<i>Perennial</i>	Peak — one of the best fall cutting flowers
Cosmos	<i>Annual</i>	Until first frost — still producing in mild PNW falls
Celosia	<i>Annual</i>	Harvest remaining stems for drying before frost
Dusty Miller	<i>Perennial</i>	Beautiful foliage filler — nearly year-round in PNW

Garden tasks: Sow sweet pea seeds directly in bed. Continue bulb planting. Dig dahlias after first hard frost.

NOVEMBER FALL

Plant	Type	Cutting Notes
Dahlias	<i>Bulb</i>	Often still going in mild PNW years — watch frost forecasts
Japanese Anemone	<i>Perennial</i>	Winding down — last elegant stems of the season
Dusty Miller	<i>Perennial</i>	Excellent foliage filler through winter
Rosemary	<i>Woody Stem</i>	Fragrant foliage stems — evergreen structure for arrangements

Garden tasks: Dig and store dahlia tubers after hard frost. Clean up beds. Mulch hellebores and perennials.

DECEMBER WINTER

Plant	Type	Cutting Notes
Hellebores	<i>Perennial</i>	Buds forming — first blooms in mild winters by late December
Sweet Box (Sarcococca)	<i>Woody Stem</i>	Beginning to bloom — extraordinary winter fragrance
Rosemary	<i>Woody Stem</i>	Evergreen foliage cuts beautifully — fragrant and structural
Dusty Miller	<i>Perennial</i>	Silver foliage brightens winter arrangements

Garden tasks: Rest and plan! Review seed catalogs. Make spring planting lists. Order seeds early — sweet peas sell out fast.

Note: Bloom times are approximate for the Woodinville/greater Seattle area. Mild PNW winters extend both ends of the season.