



Michigan Gardening Calendar

Planting dates based on Zone 6a.

- Plant 1 week earlier in Zone 6b
- Plant 1 week later in Zone 5b
- Plant 2 weeks later in Zone 5a

(Always adjust based on local weather conditions.)

Soil temperature is more important than air temperature.

- Cool-season crops germinate best at 55°F+
- Warm-season crops need 75°F+

Warm soil speeds germination and reduces disease risk.

Most vegetables can be planted from July to September for a fall harvest.

Check “days to maturity” and count backward from the first frost.

Cool-season crops tolerate light frost and often improve in flavor after a chill.

Start spring transplants indoors approximately 4 weeks before outdoor planting. Check the seed packet for exact timing.

Harden off plants 7–10 days before transplanting outdoors.

Cool-season crops = leaves, stems, roots (lettuce, kale)

Warm-season crops = fruits (tomatoes, peppers, corn)

March

Plant
Peas
Spinach
Lettuce

Garden Tasks
Soil Test
Prepare Beds
Clean tools

April

Plant
Carrots Swiss
Beets Chard
Radishes Potatoes
Onion Sets Spinach

Garden Tasks
Thin Seedlings
Mulch
Start warm crops indoors

May

Plant	After Frost:
Broccoli	Tomatoes
Cabbage	Peppers
Kale	Cucumbers
Bush	Squash
Beans	Eggplant

Garden Tasks
Harden off Plants
Thin early seedlings

June

Plant
Pole Pumpkins
Beans Sweet
Melons Corn

Garden Tasks
Weed & Mulch
Water regularly
Scout Pests
Stake tomatoes & peas

July

Plant (Fall Crops)
Radishes Lettuce
Turnips Spinach

Garden Tasks
Weed routinely
Maintain irrigation
Harvest often
Fertilize if needed
Monitor for pests & diseases

August

Plant (Fall Crops)
Broccoli Collards
Kale Beets

Garden Tasks
Shade seedlings
Continue harvest
Monitor for pests & diseases

September

Plant
Garlic
Cover crops

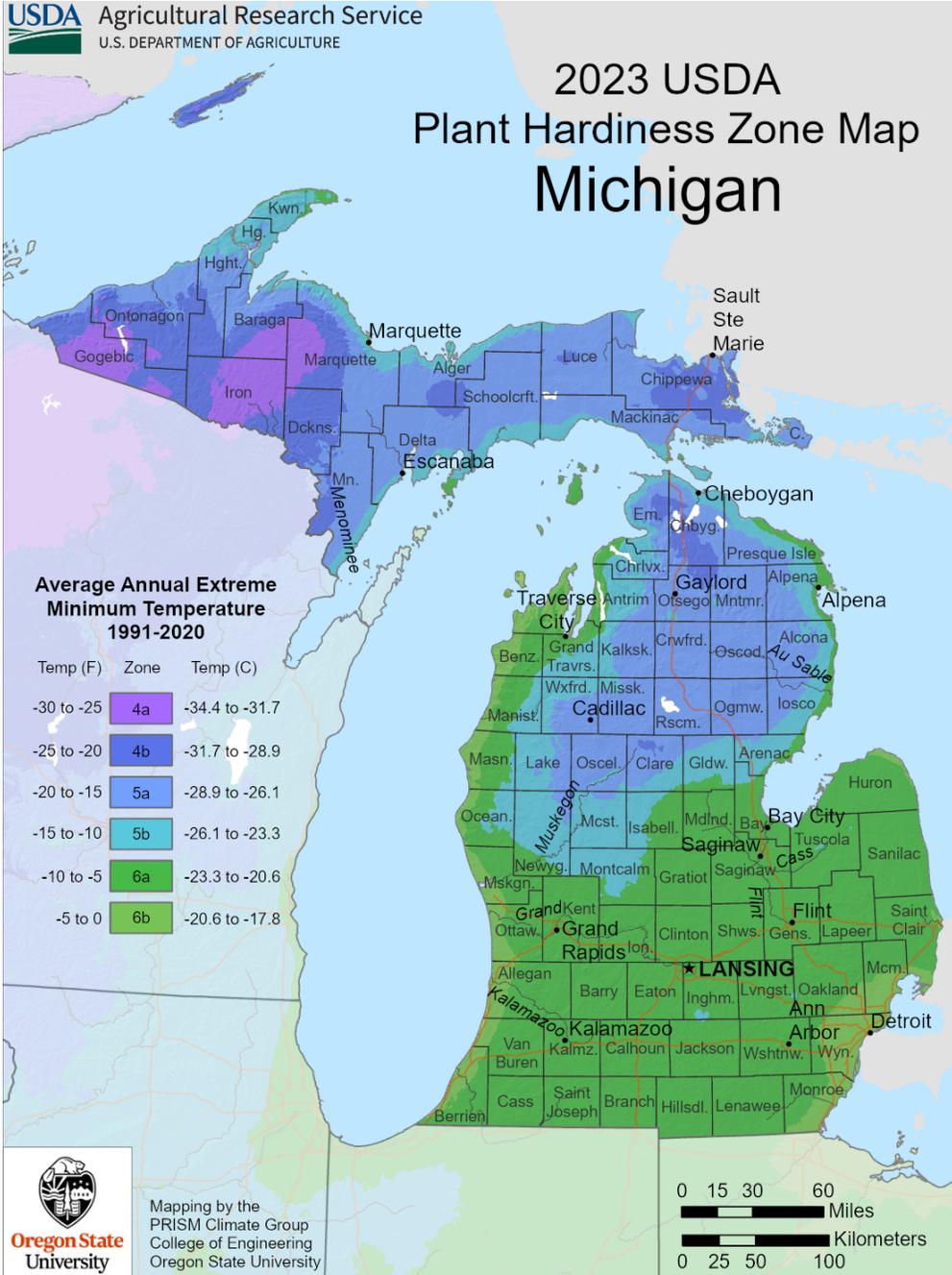
Garden Tasks
Remove spent plants
Watch for first frost

October

Garden Tasks
Harvest remaining crops
Clean beds
Amend soil with organic matter
Mulch garlic

November

Garden Tasks
Soil Test
Mulch garden
Clean & Store tools
Review season
Plan next year’s garden



Average Last Spring Frost

- Zone 4a: June 1 - June 15
- Zone 4b: May 25 - June 10
- Zone 5a: May 20 - May 30
- Zone 5b: May 10 - May 25
- Zone 6a: May 1 - May 15
- Zone 6b: April 15 - April 30

Average First Fall Frost

- Zone 4a: Sept. 5 - Sept. 20
- Zone 4b: Sept. 10 - Sept. 25
- Zone 5a: Sept. 20 - Oct. 1
- Zone 5b: Sept. 25 - Oct. 10
- Zone 6a: Oct. 6 - Oct. 21
- Zone 6b: Oct. 15 - Oct. 31

These are approximate ranges for most years across each zone

Michigan Plant Hardiness Zone Map



MSU Enviroweather (Soil temp, moisture & rainfall)



MSU Extension Gardening in Michigan

