

Things to do in February

Plant Care

- Prune hybrid tea roses mid-month at 45 degree angles just above outward facing buds. Remove dead wood and crossing branches. Prune climbers after first bloom. Prune shrub roses with hedge clippers.
- Begin to plant roses, groundcovers, cool season annuals, cannas, and ornamental grasses.
- Begin to plant your garden with onions, potatoes, radishes, greens, sugar snap peas, carrots, beets, turnips, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, kale, collards, and cauliflower.

Pests

- Begin regular disease prevention programs for susceptible roses.
- Treat aphids on ornamentals with strong spray of water or insecticidal soap.
- At first sign of green loopers on broccoli, greens, cabbage, and lettuce apply BT (*Bacillus thuringiensis*).

Odds and Ends

- Clean, sharpen, and oil outdoor tools.
- Check irrigation systems for missing or broken heads. Clean filters.
- Service mowers and power equipment.
- Clean out and/or put up bluebird nest boxes.
- Clean out and/or put up purple martin houses.