

Tropical Garden Care Calendar

Mother Earth Gardens · month-by-month care for a Philippine garden



A mature MEG-planted tropical garden

Philippine gardens run on two seasons — dry (roughly Nov–May) and wet (roughly Jun–Oct) — not four. This calendar is a general guide for lowland tropical gardens; adjust to your own site and microclimate. The single biggest mistake is watering on a fixed schedule regardless of season; the second is skipping typhoon prep.

January–February (cool dry)

Peak growing weather. Plant and transplant now — roots establish before the heat. Fertilise actively growing plants. Prune deciduous and flowering shrubs after bloom. Water deeply 2–3×/week.

March–May (hot dry)

Hardest season on plants. Water early morning or late afternoon, deeply and less often to encourage deep roots. Mulch to hold moisture. Hold off heavy pruning and fertilising of stressed plants. Watch for spider mites and scale in the heat.

June–July (onset of rains)

Best planting window of the year — natural rainfall establishes new stock. Cut back on irrigation as rains arrive. Feed with a balanced fertiliser. Check drainage before the heavy rains build.



Layered planting along a garden path

August–September (peak wet / typhoon)

Typhoon season. Stake young trees, thin dense canopies to let wind pass, and clear drains. Ease off nitrogen (soft growth is storm-vulnerable). Watch for fungal disease and root rot in waterlogged beds — improve drainage, don't overwater.

October–November (rains easing)

Recovery and cleanup after storms. Replace losses, re-stake, prune damage. Resume feeding. A good second planting window as weather settles.

December (cool dry returns)

Ideal planting and landscaping weather. Refresh mulch, plan next year's changes, and do structural pruning while growth is slow.

Year-round basics

- Water in the early morning — not midday (evaporation) or night (fungal risk)
- Deep, infrequent watering beats shallow daily sprinkling — it builds drought-resilient roots
- Mulch beds to hold moisture, suppress weeds, and feed the soil

- Inspect weekly for early pest and disease signs — catching it early is half the battle
- Right plant, right place: match each plant to its actual sun and water conditions

This calendar is general guidance, not a substitute for a site-specific maintenance program. Mother Earth Gardens ·
meglandscaping.com · inquiry@meglandscaping.com · +63 928 551 0587 / +63 917 827 3803