

Autumn Weed Control Checklist

Autumn is the perfect season to get ahead of weeds. By pulling, mulching, and covering now, you'll protect your soil and save time come spring. Use this checklist as a guide to keep your beds healthy, balanced, and ready for rest.







Step-by-Step Strategies

- Hand-pull young weeds after rain or watering for easy root removal.
- Hoe or cut off small weeds just below the soil surface.
- Dig out deep-rooted perennials like dandelions or nut sedge.
- Apply shredded leaves, straw, or compost as mulch to smother weeds.
- Sow cover crops (clover, rye, mustard) in unused beds to block weeds.
- Smother empty beds with cardboard + mulch or use tarps for rest.

Seasonal Tips (Zone 9)

- Autumn rains encourage weeds—stay consistent with removal.
- Mulch generously before winter to protect crops and block weeds.
- Stockpile leaves now for mulching into spring and summer.
- Tidy borders and pathways with wood chips to prevent creeping grasses.

Do's and Don'ts

-  Do mulch generously in autumn to suppress weeds long-term.
-  Do plant cover crops in unused spaces.
-  Do maintain tidy borders and walkways.
-  Don't leave soil bare—this invites weeds.
-  Don't rely on herbicides—they harm soil life and pollinators.
-  Don't over-till—this brings weed seeds to the surface.



Journal Prompt

What weeds—literal or spiritual—are you being invited to clear away this season so that space is made for peace and growth?

Grace Note

Friend, autumn weed control is not glamorous, but it is holy in its own way. With every weed you pull and every bed you cover, you are preparing for grace to grow. May your autumn beds rest well and be ready for the abundance of seasons ahead.

