



GETTING STARTED: SEASONAL STRATEGIES FOR MAINTENANCE

Spring	Summer	Autumn
Maintenance should begin as soon as it's warm enough. Spring is a good time to weed, rake and learn what plants and weeds look like at the seedling stage.	Store tools onsite in a secure place.	Make sure all summer helpers are thanked with notes, small gifts, recognition in the school newsletter, etc.
Have a spring celebration! Watch for the first robins to appear. Recruit more volunteers!	Make sure maintenance teams have access to an outdoor tap, which may require a special key.	Let leaves and cuttings fall and stay on the ground.
Mulch trees, pathways and garden beds.	Provide written details on watering.	Use debris for art projects, lessons.
When green growth appears, remove dead material at the top and let students see the plants budding.	Harvest ripe vegetables and flowers.	Order equipment and planting stock for following year's season.
Have weekend workshops to learn more about various topics such as native plants.	Post a schedule and mail it to those who are participating so they know who is supposed to be doing what.	Good time to weed and prune.