



# PHILADELPHIA ORCHARD PROJECT

## Monthly Orchard Task List: May/June

The following Task List has been compiled as a reference and starting point that applies broadly to orchards and the plants included in POP orchards. Specific timing and relevant plants will change according to each site and growing season. We've included space for notes and a place to mark the dates they are completed - as applicable to your site.

Please feel free to provide feedback on this form and to also send us a scan or picture at the end of the year, so we can continue to improve it!

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email or phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Orchard: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Month	Tasks	Date(s)	Notes
May	<b>Prune Figs after new growth starts</b> Cut out winter die back after new growth initiates Prune for shape and light penetration as desired		
	<b>Continue weeding and mulching</b> Reduce weed pressure over time via thorough weeding Subsequently apply a thick layer of wood chips to disturbed areas		
	<b>Water Spring planted trees, shrubs and perennials</b> once per week first year		
	<b>Pest and Disease Monitoring &amp; Management</b> (as needed) Continue Kaolin clay when needed for plum curculio and codling moth Prune out and dispose of flagging tips on peach and stone fruits from oriental fruit moth Remove leaves infected with Peach Leaf Curl Potential application of holistic and organic sprays as needed for specific pest and disease challenges		
	<b>Prune signs of Fire Blight out of Apple, Pear, Asian Pear &amp; Quince</b> To prevent further spread, prune at least 12" below signs and further if discoloration noted in cut stems Burn or trash all fire blight prunings		
	<b>Harvest:</b> Rhubarb, greens, sometimes goumis!		
June	<b>Continue weeding and mulching</b> see above		
	<b>Water Spring planted trees, shrubs and perennials</b> once per week first year		
	<b>Thin fruit sets of Peaches, Pears, Apples and sometimes Plums &amp; Apricots</b> Remove all fruitlets from first year trees Apples, pears, and Asian pears should be hand-thinned to 5" apart, max one per cluster Peaches should be hand thinned to 6-8" apart Plums and Apricots can benefit from thinning to 3" apart Start by removing fruit with obvious disease and pest damage, leaving larger, healthy fruit		
	<b>Emergency pruning:</b> Remove dead, diseased, damaged & root suckers		
	<b>Pest and Disease Monitoring &amp; Management</b> (as needed) Prune out and dispose of flagging tips on peach and stone fruits from oriental fruit moth Gather and trash dropped and aborted fruit "June drops" Potential application of holistic and organic sprays as needed for specific pest and disease challenges Place bird netting over blueberries and cherries if desired Bag fruit for codling moth and apple maggot protection Beneficial insect releases: lacewings, trichogramma wasps Hang traps for apple maggot fly		
	<b>Harvest:</b> Rhubarb, strawberries, cherries, raspberries, blueberries, juneberries, honeyberries, goumis, currants, greens, some herbs		

**Sources:**  
<https://extension.psu.edu/home-orchard-calendar>  
 "The Holistic Orchard" Michael Phillips

**POP Resources:**  
[Search POP urban orchard blog for specific articles on pest and disease management and other topics: https://www.phillyorchards.org/blog/](https://www.phillyorchards.org/blog/)  
[Download POP resources on pruning, pest and disease identification, etc: https://www.phillyorchards.org/resources/](https://www.phillyorchards.org/resources/)