



# PHILADELPHIA ORCHARD PROJECT

## Monthly Orchard Task List: April

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
April	<b>Unwrap figs and pomegranates</b> Figs that were wrapped in Fall can now be uncovered		
	<b>Thorough Spring weeding and mulch</b> Reduce weed pressure over time via thorough weeding of undesired volunteer plants Apply thick layer of wood chips to reduce weed pressure and feed the forest floor Be sure not to build up mulch around tree bases Consider sheet mulching with a base layer of cardboard for added weed control		
	<b>Plant new trees, shrubs, vines, and herbaceous companion plants</b> Water new plants twice per week for the first month		
	<b>Holistic Orchard Sprays for general plant health and resilience</b> Compost tea, neem oil, and/or herbal sprays Often applied every 2 weeks or at 1/4" green, pink, and petal fall stages		
	<b>Pest and Disease Monitoring</b> (weekly walk though)		
	<b>Begin pest and disease control on Stone Fruit (as needed)</b> Copper/Sulfur fungicides for severe bacterial & fungal issues BT and Spinosad for rampant moth and larva infestations Kaolin clay for curculio and some moths Do not spray in heat of day, during bloom or close to harvest Read and follow labels carefully Only spray in response to specific issue Hang pheromone and sticky traps timed to specific pest egg hatch		
	<b>Begin pest and disease control on Pome Fruit (as needed)</b> Copper/Sulfur fungicides for severe bacterial & fungal issues BT and Spinosad for rampant moth and larva infestations Kaolin clay for curculio and some moths Do not spray in heat of day, during bloom or close to harvest Read and follow labels carefully Only spray in response to specific issue Hang pheromone and sticky traps timed to specific pest egg hatch		
	<b>Install sticky bands on trunks for Spotted Lanternfly control</b>		
	<b>Hang pheremone traps if monitoring moth populations</b> Oriental fruit moth, codling moth, etc		

<b>Sources:</b> <a href="https://extension.psu.edu/home-orchard-calendar">https://extension.psu.edu/home-orchard-calendar</a> "The Holistic Orchard" Michael Phillips	<b>POP Resources:</b> <a href="https://www.phillyorchards.org/blog/">Search POP urban orchard blog for specific articles on pest and disease management and other topics: https://www.phillyorchards.org/blog/</a> <a href="https://www.phillyorchards.org/resources/">Download POP resources on pruning, pest and disease identification, etc: https://www.phillyorchards.org/resources/</a>
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