TOTAL LANDSCAPING & GROUNDWORKS

Seasonal Garden Maintenance Checklist

Printable Home Reference Guide

1. Tree Pruning – Timing Check

☐ Confirm tree species

☐ Check for Tree Preservation Order (TPO) or Conservation Area restrictions

☐ Inspect for nesting birds (March–August protection period)

☐ Schedule dormant pruning (November–March) for most species

☐ Schedule mid-summer pruning for walnut/maple (to reduce sap bleed)

☐ Schedule July–August pruning for cherry and other Prunus

☐ Avoid pruning during spring sap rise

☐ Avoid pruning in extreme frost or high winds

2. Coppicing & Pollarding

☐ Confirm species suitable for coppicing (e.g. hazel, willow, sweet chestnut)

☐ Schedule coppicing for late winter (February–March)

☐ Avoid coppicing newly planted trees

☐ Confirm tree is already an established pollard (do not begin on mature unprepared trees)

☐ Schedule pollarding for January–March before active growth

3. Safe & Correct Pruning Practice

☐ Remove dead, diseased or damaged wood first

☐ Remove crossing or rubbing branches

☐ Make clean cuts to appropriate growth points

☐ Use suitable, well-maintained tools

☐ Wear appropriate PPE

☐ Seek qualified arborist advice for large or veteran trees

4. Hedge Maintenance Planning

☐ Identify hedge type (formal / native / mixed)

☐ Schedule first trim (late spring / early summer)

☐ Schedule second trim (late summer / early autumn)

☐ Avoid heavy cutting during nesting season (March–August)

☐ Plan major reductions for late winter

5. Pest & Disease Monitoring

☐ Inspect trees, hedges and lawns regularly

☐ Identify early signs of pest or fungal activity

☐ Apply targeted treatment where appropriate

☐ Avoid heavy pruning during active disease outbreaks

☐ Seek professional advice for structural or suspected serious disease issues

For professional seasonal maintenance, inspections or planned works, contact Total Landscaping & Groundworks - 07884 445 831

6. Legal & Safety Considerations

- ☐ Check TPO / Conservation Area status before major tree works
- ☐ Consider wildlife protection laws (nesting birds)
- ☐ Use qualified, insured contractors for large trees
- ☐ Confirm safe access and working area before starting

7. Annual Planning Reminders

- ☐ Book major pruning for late winter
- ☐ Plan hedge reductions outside March–August
- ☐ Schedule lawn renovation for spring or early autumn
- ☐ Arrange seasonal maintenance visits in advance

8. Lawn Care – Seasonal Programme

Spring

- ☐ Scarify
- ☐ Aerate
- ☐ Apply spring feed
- ☐ Overseed thin areas

Summer

- ☐ Maintain regular mowing
- ☐ Raise cutting height in dry/hot periods
- ☐ Water deeply and frequently

Autumn

- ☐ Apply autumn feed
- ☐ Repair worn patches
- ☐ Remove fallen leaves
- ☐ Prepare lawn edges and borders

Winter

- ☐ Avoid mowing in frost or saturated ground
- ☐ Prevent compaction on wet lawns