Orchard matters..
A complete guide to looking after your trees and making the most of your outdoor space
About Fruit-full Communities

The Fruit-full Communities project was funded by the Big Lottery Fund as part of Our Bright Future programme. Young people from your centre worked together to design and create a beautiful outdoor space for you to enjoy. They planted fruit trees, learned new practical skills, explored enterprise opportunities and careers in the Green Economy. They also gained better understanding of the importance of trees in protecting the environment and made connections with other young people working with trees in African countries.

By taking part in this project, they became part of a global movement for change for a more sustainable future. You can join in by looking after your orchard, using it for relaxation, socialising and making the most of the fruit it produces!

Fruit-full Communities was delivered by Learning through Landscapes in partnership with the International Tree Foundation, The Orchard Project and the YMCA.

About this pack

This resource pack was produced by the Fruit-full Communities team to help young people, staff and volunteers at your centre look after your orchard, in order to make the most of this amazing outdoor space and the fruit grown.

The content and photos for this pack were kindly provided by The Orchard Project, International Tree Foundation and Learning through Landscapes, with the exception of a few that are clearly marked.

Further information

Learning through Landscapes (LTL) www.ltl.org.uk is the UK charity dedicated to enhancing outdoor learning and play for children and young people. It helps children and young people to connect with nature, become more active, learn outdoors, develop social skills and have fun. It encourages young people to have a say in the way their grounds are used and improved.

International Tree Foundation www.internationaltreefoundation.org promotes community tree planting projects throughout the UK and provides resources for primary school teachers to help young people appreciate the importance of trees, woods and forests. One of the world’s oldest environmental charities, it also works with partners in numerous African countries to enhance the local environment and improve livelihoods through tree-planting and agro-forestry.

The Orchard Project www.theorchardproject.org works in partnership with communities to plant, manage, restore and harvest orchards in urban areas to help us all to rediscover the pleasure of eating home-grown fruit and nuts. They have shared their expertise across the UK, Europe and the US and have advised hundreds of activists, community groups and local councils wishing to launch their very own urban community orchards.

YMCA www.ymca.org.uk is the largest and the oldest youth charity in the world. It focuses on helping young people and enabling them play a fulfilling role within their communities.

Our Bright Future www.OurBrightFuture.org.uk is an ambitious and innovative partnership led by The Wildlife Trusts which brings together the youth and environmental sectors. This £33 million programme funded by the National Lottery through the Big Lottery Fund is formed of 31 projects across the UK. Each project is helping young people aged 11-24 gain vital skills and experience and improve their wellbeing. At the same time, they act as catalysts for delivering change for their local environment and community whilst contributing to a greener economy.

The Wildlife Trusts incorporates 47 individual Wildlife Trusts covering the whole of the UK. They manage around 2,300 nature reserves and every year we advise thousands of landowners and organisations on how to manage their land for wildlife. Each Wildlife Trust is working within its local communities to inspire people about the future of their area: their own Living Landscapes and Living Seas.
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Things to look out for when planning an orchard

Once your trees are in the ground, they may be there for another century so careful planning now will really pay off! Key things to look out for when planning your orchard are:

**Sun**

Fruit trees require sunlight for good growth and fruit ripening so plant you trees in the most sunny spots you have in your garden.

If you are in a town or city vertical but very sunny spots like walls can be great for growing more tender fruits like peaches and apricots. Semi-shaded areas can be used for cooking varieties.

**Soil**

Most traditional and local fruit varieties can grow in a fairly wide range of soil types. Dig a few sample holes to find out what is below the surface and avoid heavy, compacted or poorly drained soils. Most soils can be improved over time. If there is rubble under the surface you can remove some of it during planting. Ideally there should be at least 2ft of soil before you hit any solid like rock, concrete foundations etc.

Trees planted in shallow soils or on a dwarfing rootstock may need staking permanently to stop them falling over in the wind.

**Frost pockets and standing water**

Ask people who know the site well if they can recall any areas that become flooded during the winter. Most fruit trees do not like to be in standing water for too long so avoiding these areas is very important.

If possible, avoid planting your trees at the bottom of a slope where there is a wall or hedge. These areas often remain frozen for longer periods of time in cold winters. This can damage fruit buds.

**Water source and collection**

Newly planted trees need to be watered regularly for the first few years to help them grow and establish a healthy root system. Having an easy access to water will help looking after the trees.

The local council or housing authority may be able to fit a new stand pipe and tap. Hoses attached to outdoor and kitchen taps may also be an option.

You may consider installing a water butt near your orchard to collect rain water. The bigger water butt you can afford the better as they soon run dry during warm periods.

**Orchard spacing and layout**

The most important thing is that each tree is positioned in a place that receives sufficient sun and soil depth, is well drained and not too close to other trees or large shrubs.

Where possible spacing between fruit trees should be generous to allow for competition-free root and canopy growth. When choosing your trees find out how wide the canopy will grow and then allow that much space when planting your trees. If your orchard space is very limited choose trees that will not grow very big and adjust the spacing accordingly.
How to choose your trees

We tend to think ‘apple’ when we think ‘orchard’. But why not think about including some other fruit trees? Plums can be grown successfully in most parts of the UK, while pears do well in more southern locations. Why not also consider less common traditional fruit like gages, damsons, quinces, mulberries or medlars?

Choose varieties that have a long tradition of being grown in your local area as these will be generally well suited to your local climate. It’s also a good idea to include a few varieties that you will not easily find on the supermarket shelf.

What fruit do you like?

» We suggest that you only plant varieties that you like to eat! Why not organise a fruit tasting session with the rest of your group and try different varieties, their juices and products?

» Apple days, farmers markets and events like cherry festivals are great places to try new fruits. You may also be able to try quince jam, medlar jam, and chutneys, etc. at these events.

It is also worth finding out if there are any local harvesting groups through the Abundance Network as they may have products like these that you can try.

Don’t forget nuts!

Hazels, sweet chestnuts and almonds can all be grown in the UK.

» Hazels are the most hardy. They can be grown in most places in the UK, also in partial shade and can be planted in windy spots.

» The sweet chestnuts and almonds will do better in the South, requiring a slightly warmer climate. Late-flowering almond varieties like ‘Mandaline’ are a good bet.

How to extend the fruiting season?

By selecting species and varieties with a range of harvest times you can enjoy your fruit supply for longer.

» With cherries and plums available to pick from July, and the earliest apples ready in August, you will be eating fresh fruit long before the autumn harvest season kicks in.

» By picking apple varieties that hang on the tree over the winter and those that can be stored, you can continue to enjoy the fruit of your orchard long into the New Year.

Fruit-full Communities

www.fruitfullcommunities.org
Choosing what to grow - shape and size

Fruit trees are usually grafted on to a rootstock (the lower portion of stem which has the roots attached). To stop trees becoming too big, most varieties are grafted onto a ‘dwarfing’ or ‘semi-dwarfing’ rootstock - this helps to keep the trees at a suitable size so they can be picked and pruned easily.

You can prune your trees to grow in a range of shapes and sizes. If you want to grow them flat up against a wall, fence or create a hedge-type effect, then opt for ‘espaler’, ‘fan’ or ‘cordon’ forms.

‘Stepover’ forms are pruned very low and are ideal for growing along a path or around a planting bed.

You can prune your trees this way yourself over several years or buy trees that have already been trained by the nursery. They will still need to be pruned each year but this is quite easy to do.

If you have space, simple ‘bush’ forms planted into a grassy area will work well for most varieties and will be suitable if you want a small grove of medium-sized trees. Again, it is possible to buy trees that have already been trained and pruned into this shape by the nursery.
Planting your orchard

Bare root trees need to be planted in winter (November to January) while container grown trees can be planted at any time. Having selected the right site and designed the layout of your orchard, carefully mark out the location of your trees.

To help you plant your trees you will need:

» Spades
» Forks (for breaking up hard pans and making drainage holes)
» Buckets/bins (to soak bare roots)
» Pinch bars/ground breaking tools
» Mattocks
» Tree ties/old inner tubes
» Large cable ties
» Biodegradable mulch mats
» Tree stakes
» Tree guards, hammers and fencing staples (if using wire mesh guards)
» Secateurs
» Mycorrhizal root dip
» Organic chicken manure or compost
» Mulch (for example woodchip, one barrow per tree)
» Wheelbarrows
» Shovels
» Gloves
» Mallet/lump hammer for stakes
» Safety goggles and hard hats (only if using above head height stakes for guarding)
» Stake driver (only needed if using big stakes)
» First Aid Kit

The ‘pit’

Dig a square shaped pit. This is particularly important with compacted and heavy clay soils. Each side of the square should be at least three spade widths wide. The pit should be dug to at least one spade’s depth. Break up the subsoil at the bottom of the pit, remove all weeds and large stones and mix in a layer of compost.

Planting

» The pit should accommodate the root ball without the roots having to be squeezed in or bent up the sides.

» Any long roots can be accommodated by using the spade to make a slit from one of the corners. Ease the spade forward so that the slit can be opened and the root tucked in, before removing the spade and tamping the ground down.

» It is important that the graft union (the bulge where the rootstock has been grafted onto the scion) remains 8-10cm above the ground level and that no roots are poking out of the surface.

» Backfill the pit with the remaining soil, firming the soil gently with your foot.

Mulching

Mulch is a layer of organic matter (e.g. manure) added on top of the ground to suppress weed growth and retain moisture. It is vital for the establishment of young trees, particularly when planted into grass.

Woodchip from hard wood trees makes good, long-lasting mulch and is readily available from tree surgeons.

A mulch mat can be placed on the ground around the base of the tree to block light to any plants below and to prevent more vigorous weeds from growing. This should be at least 1m in diameter and be made from a biodegradable material. A couple of layers of cardboard will suffice.
A generous layer of mulch can then be added. This should form a circle around the tree, around 1m diameter and 8-10cm thick.

A hollow should be made immediately around the base of the tree’s stem so that the mulch is not touching the bark, which can lead to rotting.

Guarding

In most places the main source of damage to young trees are strimmers, grass cutters and vandalism.

You can protect your trees with guards which you can purchase from your local garden centre or make yourself using wire netting.

Where possible, mark the boundary of your orchard with a physical feature making it difficult for grass cutters to accidently damage your trees.

In order to allow the tree sufficient space to grow, it is vital to check the guard regularly and adjust it when needed so that the wire does not cut into the growing branches.

Fruit-full tip: Planting bare root trees

Delivery

➤ When your trees get delivered, remove them from the packaging but do not unwrap the roots. Place the trees in a cool but frost-proof shed. They can remain that way for one week.

➤ If the trees are not going to be planted within one week, dig a small trench, unwrap the roots, cut the strings and water them well. Place the tree in the trench and cover all the roots with the backfill soil. Firm the soil around the roots with your feet.

➤ Check the trees daily especially for damage from mice and rabbits.

Planting

➤ If the roots appear dry, immerse the roots in a bucket of water for at least 15 minutes before planting.
Weeding and watering

For the first few years after planting, water your trees well during dry weather (a large watering can of water applied every few days).

Weed control is key to successful establishment. Your aim should be to keep a weed-free area of about 1m in diameter around each tree for the first 3-5 years.

Woodchip from your local tree surgeon makes an excellent mulch which will inhibit weeds and break down to create a rich soil.

Pruning and training fruit trees

Pruning and training your trees will keep them healthy, productive and allow you to control their shape and size.

Here are a few basic tips for pruning and training trees:

» Use sharp secateurs and try to make a clean cut with no rough edges.

» Remove any damaged, dying or deceased branches. Have a look online for tips on how to recognise dead branches.

» Remove branches that cross to avoid mutual damage.

Don’t worry if you prune the wrong bit – it is all part of the learning process! Many trees are quite resilient and will recover from harsh cuts.

For more advice on pruning and training different tree forms visit:
www.fruitfullcommunities.org

Ongoing care

» Remove fruitlets (immature/tiny fruit) as soon as they become visible in the first year or two to support stronger growth.

» Thin overcrowded clusters of fruit by hand in late June to leave one to two fruits per cluster.

» Check that your tree ties don’t become too tight or loose.

» Most importantly, agree clear responsibilities for your orchard care and maintenance tasks and plan them into your centre’s regular activities calendar so they don’t get forgotten or overlooked.

WINTER:
Prune trees that produce fruits containing pips - apples, pears, etc.

SUMMER:
Prune trees that produce stone fruits - cherries, plums, gages, etc.
Harvesting and storing fruit

Apples are ready for picking when the stalks detach from the tree easily without pulling and tugging. Cup the apple in your hand and lift and twist – if it is ready it should come away easily. Try not to press or handle the fruit too much or it will bruise. Pears need to be treated very gently.

Apples and pears can be stored for several weeks or months (depending on variety). Choose clean, unblemished fruits for storing as they will quickly rot if bruised or damaged. Inspect and handle the fruits carefully. Wrap each fruit individually in a sheet of newspaper before placing them in a tray, shallow box or basket and leave in a cool, frost-free place (a garden shed or garage is ideal).

Alternatively, place about six fruits in a clear polythene bag, perforating the bag with a few holes for ventilation.

Check the stored fruits regularly and remove any which show signs of rotting. Cooking apples may be peeled, cored, chopped and frozen in bags for later use.

If you have more fruit than you can store, try juicing the fruit using an apple press (it is often possible to borrow one from your local apple group). The juice can be drunk fresh (within three days of pressing – keep it in the fridge to keep it fresh), or pour into old, clean plastic drinks bottles and freeze - remember to leave enough space at the top of the bottle for the juice to expand during freezing.

A small amount of vitamin C (ascorbic acid) added to the juice after pressing will help prevent it discolouring.

ENJOY!

Content for the ‘Harvesting and storing fruit’ guide was provided by Garden Organic.

Common orchard pests and diseases

Focus on tree health

The key defence to all pest and diseases is a healthy plant.

Watering, weeding and maintaining a well-mulched zone around the base of the tree are the key tasks for the first few years after planting and all three will speed up the establishment of the tree.

A tree is ‘established’ once it has grown enough roots to keep it alive without the need for additional watering and growth rates become more or less consistent from year to year.

Feeding the tree once it begins to fruit properly after a few years will ensure that the nutrients used to create each years’ harvest will be replenished.

A preventative approach - know your trees

The more you can get to know your trees and look at the leaves and shoots throughout the year, the more likely you’ll spot any issues before they get out of control.

Many pests and diseases are seasonal, so you’ll learn to anticipate their arrival and build this into your annual orchard care calendar. Encouraging ‘beneficial’ predators to visit your orchard may help you deal with a number of pests, for example:

» Blue tits or great tits will skilfully pluck thousands of caterpillars from an orchard in a single spring.

» Ladybird, hoverfly larvae, ground beetles, lacewings, plant bugs, wasps and earwigs consume thousands of aphids.
DISEASES

Scab (black spot) – apples and pears

Cause

Scab is a fungal disease of apples, pears and peach trees. It is often found in trees where pruning has stopped and the canopy has become overgrown. Outbreaks are worst in cool, wet periods in spring and early summer.

Symptoms

The leaves develop dark, rounded, dusty blotches and fall prematurely. Young shoots can develop pimples like blisters which turn to cracks and scabs. The fruits develop brown or blackish cory scabs, cracks and blisters on the skin. These are usually only skin deep and do not affect the flavour. However, affected fruit may split, making it vulnerable to other infections.

Control

Remove leaves and fallen fruit in the autumn to destroy the over-wintering stages of the fungus. You could remove them from your site or burn them.

Good pruning practice will allow airflow in the canopy and prevent prolonged humidity after rainfall. This will help prevent scab. Good tree spacing at planting is also important, so that there is not too much overlapping canopy between trees.

Silver leaf – plums, damsons, cherries, apricots

Cause

This is a fungus that can affect a wide range of fruit tree species, particularly stone fruits.

Symptoms

The leaves develop a silvery sheen, then discolour and wither, dying off progressively as the disease works back along the branch.

As infected branches thicken they develop a purplish stain in the centre which can be seen when cut across. Other symptoms can include reduced leaf area, reduced root growth and smaller and fewer fruit.

Control

Silver leaf is incurable, but trees with only mild infections may recover from it.

Diseased wood should be pruned out, cutting back to a point 10-15 cm after an unstained cross-section is reached. If it has reached the main trunk, it may be necessary to remove the tree completely.

Regular pruning (between May and August), maintaining an open structure and removing damaged wood, will minimise the chances of infection occurring.
**Bacterial Canker**

**Cause**

A bacterial canker is a disease that affect stone fruits and is most common on cherries and plums, but also affecting apricots and peaches. The disease weakens the plant and can cause extensive die back if not treated.

**Symptoms**

» Brown spots ringed with a yellow halo on the leaves in summer, which dry and turn into holes, causing premature leaf fall.

» Shallow hollows that discharge gum may appear on the branches.

» Cankers, appearing on twigs, branches and the trunk. Inside the cankered areas, bark becomes darker, looks wet and shrivelled. These can kill the branch completely, causing the tree to die back. Cankers can kill the tree if they completely girdle the stem.

**Control**

There is no remedy, apart from pruning off affected growth during July and August. Trees often recover and become immune.

Pruning should be avoided during winter dormancy, and tools should be wiped with disinfectant between each cut.

**Fireblight – mainly pears**

**Cause**

This bacterial disease affects apples, quinces and related trees, particularly pears.

**Symptoms**

» Burnt appearance of affected blossoms, leaves and twigs, but it can affect all aerial parts of the tree.

» Flower clusters wilt and turn brown following blossom infection. Fruits turn brown or black and become shrivelled, but remain attached to the tree.

» Cankers form on branches. These look like sunken, discoloured oozing patches surrounded by irregular cracks in the bark. The translucent amber or reddish ooze can infect other trees.

**Control**

Fireblight rarely kills a tree completely and with correct pruning the tree is likely to recover and not be reinfected for many years.

The only solution is to remove the wood back 60cm below the affected area. Young trees and shrubs are best removed entirely. Pruning should be carried out in dry weather, tools should be sterilised between cuts and the diseased material should be removed from the orchard and burnt. The whole orchard and surroundings should be carefully inspected for further signs of infection.
Apple mildew – all fruit trees

Apple mildew is very common and affects shoots, leaves and sometimes flowers and fruits.

Cause

Usually caused by drought.

Symptoms

» A white powdery coating and spores appear on new shoots, leaves, particularly on the leaf underside and less commonly on flowers and fruits too.

» The disease causes stunting of shoots on young trees, potentially causing poorly formed and misshapen trees and the reduction of flowers and fruiting spurs on older trees.

Control

Mildewed shoots can be spotted during winter and should be pruned out during winter pruning. Prune tree buds beneath the visible infection. Look out for new infection on new shoots during the spring and cut out the infected tips (take care not to spread the spores to uninfected shoots by putting the prunings into a plastic bag).

All infected leaves and shoots should be disposed of offsite. Thinning the tree to create a more open structure will help reduce any occurrence. An organic mulch applied around the base of young fruit trees will help maintain moisture, as will regular watering during the growing season.

Canker – apples and pears

Cause

Canker (not bacterial canker) affects the majority of fruit trees, but mostly apples and pears.

Symptoms

» Sunken lesions and fissures of dead bark appear on branches or main stems showing as dark water-soaked patches surrounded by cracked or corky, brown, flaky bark.

» Branches may swell up around the infected area.

» Canker can also be identified as tiny white dots in summer and red dots in autumn. If left unchecked it will cause misshapen growth, eventually girdling branches and causing die-back. If it surrounds the stem the branch will die.

Control

The only effective way of removing canker is by cutting out affected material to clean wood and burning all infected branches. Affected larger branches can have affected wood scraped away with a sharp knife, removing all parings. If canker has reached the main trunk it may be necessary to remove the whole tree.

Fruit brown rot – apples, pears and plums

Cause

Caused by a fungus and affects mostly apples, pears and plums.

Symptoms

The fruit first develops brown areas of soft decaying flesh which quickly covers the whole fruit, followed by concentric rings of yellowish white mould. Fruit that remains on the tree shrivels up and persists through winter.

Control

All rotting fruits should be removed from the tree and destroyed, including mummified fruits left hanging during the winter.
PESTS - Nature knows best

It usually takes two to five years for predator and parasite numbers to build up and become balanced. The first few years are often the worst for insect pests like aphids and codling moth. Be patient. The need for manual intervention in the first year or two will ease as nature catches up with your new habitats. All species have cycles so one year may be worse for a particular pest but it will be better the next year.

Aphids

Aphids cause leaf curling and tip distortion. They multiply very quickly and can stunt growth but are rarely a major problem in the long term. The first few years are key since this is when young trees are at their most vulnerable.

Even severe infestations have little long term impact on larger trees.

Control

Control aphids by removing or rubbing them off by hand, blasting the tree with a jet wash or introduce ladybird larvae directly onto the affected tree. You can also use garlic spray.

Top Tip

If possible, allow a few small nettle patches in your orchard. These will attract a species of aphid that only feed on nettles.

Apple sawfly

Sawfly larvae live inside apples. Trees tend to drop infected fruits and sawfly can actually assist with fruit thinning. Larvae that fail to penetrate the apple’s outer skin cause the familiar ribbon shaped scars or blemishes on ripened apples. These apples remain both good to eat and have fertile seeds.

You can break the apple sawfly lifecycle by removing infected fruit during thinning along with promptly fallen fruit.

Codling moth

Codling moth larvae live inside apples and often ruin the fruit.

Many infested fruit will fall prematurely as the tree rejects them. Larvae can move between fruits causing significant damage.

Codling moth larvae and damage, by Russell Miller

Pheromone traps can be used from late May to control codling moths. They can also be controlled by tying cardboard or sacking around the trunk in the summer. These can be removed in winter and destroyed. However, codling moths will always be present.

Bats may also provide effective control if present. If you have bats in the area, why not provide bat boxes?

Pear sawfly

Sawfly larvae eats the leaves of cherry, pear and plum trees.

You can deal with them by blasting the tree with a jet wash or by spraying on diatomaceous earth.

Pear sawfly (Caliroa cerasi) by Russell Miller

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**Pear midge**

The fruitlets turn black before dropping off in June.

**Control**

It’s worth removing infested fruitlets to break the insect’s lifecycle.

If infestation is bad, you may gently disturb the soil underneath the tree during late winter to expose them to birds but be careful not to damage the tree’s roots.

One option is to pick up and remove all the infested fruits in the summer (destroy these – don’t add them to the compost!) and then peg down some plastic sheeting around the base of the tree to aid collection of further infected fruits and prevent the larvae from reaching the soil. Repeating this over a few years will reduce the population size significantly.

**Leaf miners**

Several insects have larva that feed on leaf tissue, including some moths, sawflies, flies and beetles. The problem is usually just cosmetic and not significant enough to affect the tree.

**Birds**

Some bird species can become a problem if they attack buds, blossom and fruit too much. Species like bullfinches may eat the buds, so find out if they are common in your area. Generally they are not likely to be an issue for most sites and birds in your orchard are a good sign.

If they are a problem, netting is often the only option to prevent birds eating fruit but is only practical on small trees and can be harmful to the birds if they become tangled. Scarecrows may be useful, if moved frequently, as might large imitation owls or birds of prey mimicking kites that can be attached to the ground.

**Squirrels**

Grey squirrels can be a severe pest especially with nut crops, particularly in urban areas. Where trees have a clear stem, e.g. walnut, baffles may prevent squirrels from accessing the tree, but only if the tree stands far enough away from other trees and buildings so that they can’t jump onto it.
Nutrient deficiencies in trees

All plants require a range of different nutrients to live a healthy life. A lack of one or more of these available in the soil can cause problems for the plant. The below is a basic guide to some of the common deficiencies that you may see in your fruit trees and includes some of the possible, easily accessible and organic soil additions available to remedy them.

Primary nutrients - those that are required in larger quantities

Nitrogen (N)

Can be increased in the soil by adding manure, compost, non-human urine, comfrey leaves or coffee grounds, etc.

Nitrogen deficiency symptoms:

**Shoots** – shorter. Should be 20-30cm in apple tree in peak part of its lifecycle. Twigs are skinny.

**Fruit** – fewer, smaller fruit with more being lost during the 'June drop'. Earlier to mature.

**Leaves** – pale green to yellow. Smaller in size. Appears on older leaves (further down the shoot) first because nitrogen is mobile and moves to new growth. Leaves drop earlier.

Excess nitrogen symptoms:

**Shoots** – very long and ‘whippy’

**Fruit** – apples have poor colour and go softer more quickly in storage.

**Leaves** – large and very dark that stay on tree for longer.

Phosphorus (P)

What does it do?

Phosphorus is a mineral that helps with growth and can be increased in the soil by adding non-human urine, wood ash and seaweed.

Phosphorus deficiency symptoms:

**Shoots** – stunted

**Leaves** – fewer and smaller. Leaves end up very dark and sometimes slightly purple.

Potassium (K)

You can increase it in the soil by adding non-human urine, mulching with leaves from mineral accumulators (e.g. comfrey), seaweed and wood ash.

Potassium deficiency symptoms:

**Leaves** – margins turn yellow, then dark brown then look scorched. It appears on old leaves first and symptoms in leaves become worse as fruit ripens.
Secondary nutrients – needed in moderate amounts and less likely to hinder plant growth

**Calcium (Ca)**

**Deficiency symptoms**

**Fruit** - will have bitter pit; brown spots on skin and fruit will taste bitter.

Sprinkle some ground eggshells around the tree trunk regularly to increase calcium in the soil.

**Magnesium (Mg)**

**Deficiency symptoms**

**Leaf** - yellowing of tissue along margin and between veins resulting in Christmas tree shape. Happens first on older leaves.

**Fruit** - Early fruit drop

To resolve apply 2-3 applications of Epsom salts at 14 day intervals. This should be diluted in water and sprayed on the leaves in the evening.

**Suggested reading and resources**

We hope this short orchard care pack has provided you with enough information to get started on your orchard adventure.

If you would like to find out more please visit **www.fruitfullcommunities.org** for more detailed guides, including *Planning and planting your orchard, Growing trees in containers and Pruning and training fruit trees.*

**Online resources available:**

» [www.theorchardproject.org.uk](http://www.theorchardproject.org.uk)


» [www.commonground.org.uk](http://www.commonground.org.uk)

**You may also find these books helpful:**

» *How to Prune an Apple Tree: A guide for real people with imperfect trees* by Chloe Ward


» *Frank P Matthews – Fruit and Ornamental Tree Guide*

» *The Orchard Project Orchard Handbook*

» *The Royal Horticultural Society Pruning and Training guide*

» *The New Fruit Expert* by Dr D G Hessayon. The essential guide to growing all types of fruit

» *Garden Organic – Fruit Growing Manual - free download from [www.gardenorganic.org.uk](http://www.gardenorganic.org.uk)*

» *Natural England Orchard technical notes*

**LTL advocates an organic approach that relies on creating ecological balance in the orchard so that pest and disease threat is minimised.**
How to get the local community involved in your orchard and create long lasting beneficial links

Providing a welcoming space where people can learn, develop, create, share and celebrate, can bring local community together.

By making your orchard accessible and welcoming to others, you will help to ensure its long term sustainability. The more people invested in the space, the more chance the orchard will be cared for and valued for the long term.

Organising a community event is a great way to introduce your orchard and recruit new orchard volunteers.

Bringing people together to harvest the fruit, share recipes and customs, and of course eat and drink together, is often a great way to get people to events and provides the opportunities for bonds to be made.

Types of community events

Wassailing

This is an ancient tradition aimed at ‘blessing’ the trees as they sleep in the winter, encouraging an abundant harvest later in the year. The word Wassail means ‘to be healthy’ and it was cheered loudly while the people shared hot cider from a wassail bowl, making as much noise as possible to ‘wake the trees’ from their winter dormancy.

Traditionally it was held on the ‘12th night’ in January, but today orchard groups tend to wassail anytime during the winter months. Hot juice and/or cider and a bonfire help to make this a popular winter warmer!

Apple Day and harvest events

Apple Day is a national event that is held on October 21st. It was started by the charity Common Ground and aims to celebrate ‘local distinctiveness’, encouraging people to learn about fruit varieties and customs local to their area.

At this time of the year apples and pears are plentiful, providing fruit for all manner of fun activities and tasty treats! Often groups tie the wassail in with seasonal orchard activities such as planting and pruning.

Blossom Events

Spring is one of the most beautiful and exciting times of year in the orchard. Take advantage of the sights, sounds and smells of this time by putting on blossom celebrations.

Tie this in with seasonal orchard tasks such as mulching and feeding, or creating pollinator-friendly habitats such as bug hotels.

Summer Picnics

Invite people into the orchard at the height of summer to share food together in the sun, or under the cool shade of the trees! Plan your picnic around the harvest of any plums, gages, cherries, mulberries and early apples. Make fruit kebabs with summer fruits. This could be tied in with watering and summer pruning tasks.

Getting people to your event

Provide fun family activities as well as useful ‘services’ such as apple identification or some sort of training that can help to lure people in. Many of the traditional orchard events are seasonal and offer opportunities for engagement year after year. Often groups enjoy their first event, such as an Apple Day, so much that it becomes an annual event that evolves year on year, becoming more interesting and diverse as the group gains confidence and experience.
Ideas to get people through the door

» Offer the chance for other local environmental, community and food organisations and groups to hold stalls to showcase their work.

» Apple ID – have an apple ID expert on a stall and invite the public to bring their apples in to identify. Contact The Orchard Network for ID experts.

» Music – invite local singers or bands to come and perform at the event. Depending on the location, acoustic may be the best bet as you won’t need to worry about power supply.

» Food and drink – BBQs, baked food, apple juice…there are many options. Free food is good, but obviously this depends on your budget. It’s always worth contacting local supermarkets and wholesale retailers to ask for food donations. There are a number of organisations like ‘The real junk food company’ who take food that would otherwise go to waste and cook it up into delicious vegetarian feasts on a donation basis.

How to successfully promote the event

» Design posters and leaflets and put them up in shops, libraries, community centres and letter boxes.

» Do a press release to advertise your local event in the local papers.

» Use social media – especially Facebook – to promote your event. Set up a Facebook event that people can share.

Promoting your event

Here are some suggestions on who to promote your event to:

» Local gardening, allotment, horticultural and permaculture groups

» Local plant or tree nursery, especially if it’s a good one from where you’ll be buying stock. This may result in strengthened relationship - freebies, discounts, free training etc.

» Local beekeepers and local veg box schemes

» Community gardens, allotments, local volunteer groups (TCV/Green Gym)

Regional Wildlife Trusts, RSPB and other local organisations

Mayor and local dignitaries, local press

Schools, colleges, university environmental and conservation student groups

Local harvest groups (research the ‘Abundance’) and ask them to come and run apple juicing or other related activities. They may know where to borrow an apple press.

Neighbours and friends – why not invite your neighbours and friends to the event? They may appreciate the effort and be more inclined to attend if they already know a familiar face. All sorts of benefits can come out of such interactions; offers of help, volunteering, free fruit from the trees in local gardens etc.

Fruit-full tip

If you are concerned about too many people showing up at your event you can use Eventbrite or similar free ticket booking sites to limit the number of people attending. Whether a wassail, training, or volunteer event, sometimes it can be useful to limit the number of participants due to resource or budget limitations or optimal ‘teaching’ numbers.

www.fruitfullcommunities.org
Activity ideas for community events in your orchard

Here are some tried and tested ideas for activities to run at your orchard event. These could either be free or for a nominal fee to help cover costs (or a combination).

Face painting
A great one for kids. It’s worth looking up a local artist who does face painting.

Apple juicing
This is a really popular activity that is often the highlight of orchard events. It does require some specialised (yet easy to use) equipment and a large number of apples.

The principle equipment consists of an apple press and a ‘scratter’(mill) to crush the apples up into a pulp before the juice is squeezed out by the press. When choosing where to buy these look for good quality, reasonably priced suppliers that offer ongoing customer service. If you plan to use your orchard produce to make juice or cider, this equipment would be money well spent; an investment that can last a lifetime.

You may be able to rent the apple press kit from a local fruit group such as Abundance Network or invite a local group to come and do apple pressing for you on the day.

It takes lots of apples to keep making juice all day. Try contacting local fruit wholesalers, markets and supermarkets for donations.

You can ask people to bring in apples from their trees to juice, giving them a bottle to take away.

Take a look here for useful advice on how to juice safely:
»www.vigopresses.co.uk
»www.youtube.com

Apple bobbing
Fun for all ages, it’s amazing to see just how competitive people can get!

For reasons of hygiene, it is advisable to change the water frequently and of course not to let anyone with a cold/illness participate.

Apple ‘nogging’
A slightly different take on bobbing, nogging involves hanging apples on strings in a line from a horizontal line, such as a washing line tied between two trees. Participants must try to eat the apple without using their hands. Hanging the apples at different heights allows people of different heights to participate.

Apple juice tasting sessions
This is a popular activity that can be done with any age group. Different apple varieties produce juices of differing sweetness and sharpness. By allowing people to try a sweet, medium and sharp juice from single varieties you can raise appreciation of the range of apple varieties and their qualities.

For example James White www.jameswhite.co.uk or Duskin juices www.duskin.co.uk are two readily available juices that can be bought in one litre bottles from a range of independent shops, including health food shops.

Longest peel competition
This is a popular game that is enjoyed by all ages. The aim is for a contender to produce the longest, intact apple peel possible from a single fruit.
Traditionally this would be done using a peeling knife but a safer option is using an apple peeler and corer, which you can easily get online. This efficient little machine is easy to use, results in extremely long peel ‘ribbons’ and children love it! Each contender gets one shot with one apple. They then take their longest intact peel, measure it, and attach their name and length (on a small piece of paper and a paper clip) which is then attached to a horizontally hung length of string.

Apple art

Apples can be sliced in half and dipped in paint to make attractive prints. They can also be carved into all sorts of interesting faces. Of course, bark and leaf rubbing is also an easy and popular activity to run.

Apple bird feeders

By sticking the pointed edge of sunflower seeds into the skin of an apple, a simple bird feeder can be made. The apple can then be taken away and hung on a string. The seeds can be positioned in attractive patterns.

Cooking, baking or preserving workshop with a local chef

Organise a cooking or baking competition - your own version of the Great British Bake off? For example, organise an apple pie baking competition at your next wassail event. People are keen to show off their skills. Nominate a panel of users and staff to judge the entries etc.

Volunteering opportunities

We suggest that you develop an orchard management plan for your centre which lays out the long term maintenance and development of the orchard, listing who will do what and when.

This is an invaluable tool to guide orchard development and maintenance and it also highlights where there is scope to include volunteers.

Volunteering opportunities (also at events) can be split into roles that involve many people doing ‘bulky’ work, or fewer doing more specialised tasks. Think about how many people are required for each task and when they are needed.

» Why not approach local organisations and see if they would be interested in taking joint responsibility for some of the orcharding tasks e.g. a local school to come and do watering; the local green gym to help deliver mulch or the ecotherapy group to do weeding etc.

» Could you offer the orchard as an outdoor event space that local organisations can book, for example for picnics, yoga, meditation, story-telling, music, etc. It is important to be clear about responsibilities. Make sure that groups attend with relevant supervision, in particular when working with young and/or vulnerable people.

» It may be worth attending local community events where you can talk about your orchard and collect details of people who may be interested in volunteering opportunities there.

» Outreach projects are also a good way to get help with looking after your orchard. Some community orchards work with groups of adults with learning difficulties or schools, for example, to undertake regular tasks throughout the orchard year.

There are many organisations who match volunteers with work. Organisations such as Project Dirt have been doing this effectively.

It is worth contacting your local authority to see if they can link you to relevant groups. For days where lots of people are required, contact local universities, the local ‘Green Gym’ or look into local corporate volunteer schemes.
How to host a community event at your centre

Hosting a celebration event for your orchard can be very exciting. With good planning and a good team to share out tasks with, it will be very rewarding.

First you need to decide what the aims of the event are:

» Are you aiming to train people who will then help with the orchard in the future?
» Are you aiming to raise money to fund orchard development?
» Are you simply trying to introduce your orchard to the public and aim to build new community connections?

Here are a few ideas on where to start

Get yourself a team

The size of the team will depend on the size of the event. If there is little events experience within the group, it may be sensible to start with small events, growing as the years go.

Many skills can be developed along the way and this experience can lead to plenty of useful additions to young people’s CVs.

Budget

Have a think about what you will need for the event and where you can get it from. Is there any funding available? What can you get for free - food from a local supermarket? Perhaps you can charge a nominal fee on some activities and food sales to help cover costs? Can you involve some ‘partner’ groups to put on the event together and share costs?

Promotion

Who do you want to invite to the event and how will you reach them most effectively? Get your young people to create posters and flyers and give them out locally. Ask your centre staff to send email invitations to their local contacts.

Event safety and insurance

Risk assessing and ensuring you have the correct insurance for the event are both vital and key to minimising the chance of anything going wrong, while ensuring you’ll be covered in the event that it does!

Please always check with your centre manager that your public liability insurance covers the event and activities you are planning to run.

Key considerations

» It is key to think about the size of the event you wish to put on and the potential risks involved. How many people can the site safely host? How many people from your group are available to assist and run activities?

» What needs to be prepared in the weeks running up to the event? This will all come into the planning and regular meetings that will help you to track progress.

» How can you make it attractive for your centre users to ensure maximum participation and assistance? Benefits such as free food and experience for CVs should be mentioned!

» Decide which day of the week works best, both in terms of your staff, residents and users and potential visitors.

» Ensure volunteers take on activities in shifts, so no one is over-worked.

» Set clear deadlines for tasks to be achieved by and clear timings for the day, including for individual activities. Allocate roles and responsibility to your team, including users, staff and volunteers.

» Are children allowed on your site? If so, check the organisation’s child safeguarding policy. Ensure that attending parents are aware that they must supervise at all times.
Working in the orchard - health and safety

You will need to consider health and safety issues as you develop an orchard management plan to minimize the risk of injury at any point in any orchard activity.

What are the risks in your particular orchard? Could they be eliminated? If not, how could they be mitigated?

It’s your responsibility to ensure your orchard remains a safe place for your own group and for any visiting public or volunteers.

Legal issues

You may already have insurance for activities on your site, but it is worth checking if your insurance is appropriate for certain events. For example, if you are planning an Apple Day event, check with your site manager that public liability insurance allows for all planned activities. If planning an event on a different site, you must contact the local authority or landowner to outline your plans and seek permission before any further steps are taken.

Learning through Landscapes have many years experience of Risk Benefit Assessment and has created a suite of downloadable forms for different situations and contexts:

www.ltl.org.uk

Please also take a look at www.fruitfullcommunities.org for examples of Risk Benefit Assessments for orchard based activities and events.

Checklist for event health and safety

»Risk Benefit Assessments
»Adequate first aid kit
»Public liability insurance
»Child/young person policy for the organisation
»Sufficient toilet and sanitary facilities
»Visit on morning of event to check for dog waste, litter, glass etc
»Juicing hygiene, inc equipment cleaning
»Risk Benefit Analysis of individual activities, i.e. apple bobbing
»Ensure all participants, helpers and volunteers are clear on timings, directions, parking arrangements etc
»Tasks allocated to individuals
»Adult:young people ratios
»Special needs or dietary allergies taken into account
»Fire permission and safety policy
»Wet weather provision
»Supervision when using tools, if applicable
»Adequate waste disposal
»Power - safe equipment and power cables etc.
Turning your orchard into a profitable enterprise

There are many ways in which an orchard can be turned into an enterprise project. This resource aims to show that despite the popular saying, money does in fact grow from trees!

An orchard enterprise could be based on your orchard produce. For example, you can sell fruit by the bag or make and sell jams, chutney, juice and cider.

Using your trees to graft and produce new young trees for sale can be profitable too. You can also use your orchard for paid training courses for example about pruning and grafting.

Grafting

Case study: The Orchard Project and Cultivate London

In 2016, The Orchard Project (TOP) decided to graft several hundred new apple trees to plant in their new community orchards and to sell at events.

The staff at TOP are very skilled at grafting but they did not have the capacity or space to look after the trees during the one year of growth needed before they can be sold. Neglected trees can die if they are not watered on a regular basis during the summer.

So TOP teamed up with Cultivate London - an innovative urban farm and social enterprise based in West London who train unemployed young people in landscaping and horticulture.

The idea was simple: TOP would teach apprentices how to graft apple trees so they could assist them in grafting. Cultivate London would then keep the trees at their nursery site until the following winter, where they would be cared for along with their other plants. They were then able to keep some of the trees to sell with the profits going to their own business.

With a bit of practice, a small group of people can easily graft 50 trees in a day. Each tree costs less than £1 to create and can be sold for up to £20.

It is crucial to consider the programme of tree aftercare, especially in the first growing season. Consideration should also be given to which fruit varieties to propagate and on which rootstocks. It is therefore advisable to find out:

» What grows well locally and what is popular
» The potential market as, for example, people buying for their own gardens may prefer a smaller tree

What you’ll need

» The skill of grafting! Get onto a workshop or have someone come to your orchard to teach this ‘ancient art’. Find out if your local community orchard runs any workshops on this? Or become a volunteer at your local tree nursery where you can learn a lot about trees, grafting etc.

» Sharp grafting knives and grafting tape which can all be sourced online.

» Rootstocks – these can be bought from specialist tree nurseries and usually cost approximately 80p each.

» Scions – these can be collected for free from your own fruit trees or any others locally (with permission), during winter pruning. They can be stored in a fridge or shed, wrapped in cling film or a plastic bag for a few months until grafting in March.

» Plant pots, compost and canes for potting up your new trees.

» A safe, sunny location for your mini tree nursery. Ideally, somewhere in your centre grounds, close to a water source and where the trees can stay until the next winter.
Chutneys and Jams

Chutneys and jams can be made easily and a jar of homemade jam or chutney can be sold for even £3. It is worth considering that it can take a lot of energy to create, especially gas and electricity.

In 2015 The Orchard Project ran a series of produce-making workshops at a community kitchen. People attended the sessions in order to learn how best to preserve their orchard produce. The community kitchen was booked for a small fee and was well equipped and set up for multiple users. Apple chutney and medlar jam were two of the products and enough jars were produced so that The Orchard Project could sell them at a variety of events.

Considerations

» Work out how much it will cost to create each jar, factoring in energy, the cost of jars and labels. Your main ingredient (fruit) will be free, but you may need to bulk up your harvest with fruit collected from other orchards while your own orchard is still young.

» If your centre has good kitchen facilities, make your produce there. If not, research local community kitchens that you can hire.

» Why not invite an experienced local chutney and jam maker to lead your first session to learn some good tips from an expert?

» There are lots of interesting recipes out there but get creative and come up with something unique to your centre and locality.

For some ideas and recipes check out:

» www.bbcgoodfood.com

» www.deliaonline.com

Cider and Juice

Cider and juice production is another way to use and earn money from your surplus apples.

Equipment can be expensive, so increasing the amount of apples that you press would mean you can get a better return on your investment, save more apples and hopefully make more money. Unless you can share equipment with another project, then you will probably need to investigate fundraising to buy your juicing equipment.

Case Study: My Apple Juice, Wiltshire

Model: apple juicing service for people with surplus apples

My Apple Juice is a community apple juicing service set up in 2010 that helps people make the most of their garden or orchard crop. People harvest their own apples and bring them to the project to be juiced, bottled, pasteurised and labelled with their own design. The delicious own-labelled apple juice is ready to be picked up around 10 days after the apples are dropped off. There is no minimum or maximum weight of apples; a standard bucket of approx. 7 kg will give back at least 5 bottles. The charge is £2.50 for each personally labelled 75cl bottle. The enterprise has been a success and they are now looking to grow the business into new areas of the country.

Case Study: Local Fox by The Orchard Project, London

Model: cider and juice seller using donated apples

Local Fox is a community powered harvesting, juice and cider enterprise set up by The Orchard Project. It makes use of apples that are often left to rot on the ground.

Local Fox sources apples by taking donations
from community orchards and gardens. In its first two years of operating, the project saved an incredible 9 tonnes of apples; 7.5 tonnes were harvested from community orchards by volunteers, and the remaining 1.5 tonnes came from gardens.

With the help of volunteers, the apples are pressed at the cider house using the traditional rack and cloth process. The only mechanised equipment is a food grade pump and an electric apple mill.

Nothing more is added and nothing is taken away, leaving just 100% apples and the wild yeast living on their skins. The freshly pressed apple juice is left to slowly ferment over winter in airtight containers, ready to be racked off and bottled in the New Year.

The Orchard Project has focused sales on small independent retailers and bars.

Where can I learn about cider, perry or juice production?

> Craft Cider Making by Andrew Lea is a great guide
> Contact The Orchard Project cider house orchard@theorchardproject.org.uk.
> Sign up for Cider and Perry Production Principles and Practice by the Cider and Perry Academy www.cider-academy.co.uk

Other things to consider when starting up a small enterprise

Your skills and your team

Below are some of the essential skills you will need to run a business. You might already have some of these, others you can develop along your journey, but you may also need to find someone else to support you:

> Planning skills
> Customer service skills
> Sales

> Problem solving and resilience - bouncing back from disappointments
> Health and safety knowledge

Another great way of building your skills is to look at enterprise support programmes and online resources.

> www.princes-trust.org.uk
> The School for Social Entrepreneurs give links to funding, support programmes and advice www.the-sse.org

How will you make your product:

> Do you need any insurance? For instance, will you need public liability insurance when dealing with the public in any way?
> What health and safety considerations are there? For instance, if you are making a food or drink product then you will need to attend a food hygiene course and register with your local authority as a food business. For more information please check here: www.thepropermarmaladecompany.co.uk
> How are you going to buy and store your products? Will you need to rent premises? Will you need some initial funding to support you before you start selling your product?

To help you answer all these questions please go to: www.food.gov.uk/business-guidance.

This website will talk you through what you need to do and will provide you with useful tips and resources for starting up your business.

Funding and finance

Some businesses can be started with very little money and equipment, while others will need more funding up front.

It is really important to think about what you will need apart from fruit and make sure you can source all that within your means. With time you may be able to buy additional equipment but it is a good idea to start small and simple. Be realistic about all of your costs. Here are some useful places to look for advice on funding your enterprise:

> www.princes-trust.org.uk
> www.unltd.org.uk
> www.crowdfunder.co.uk
Brecon Close & Coops Foyer
Bridge Foyer
Coventry Foyer
Exeter Foyer (Stonewater)
Humber YMCA Foyer Project
One YMCA (Crest Road)
Plymouth Foyer
Ravenhead Foyer
Salford Foyer (HAT)
Sheffield Foyer
Swindon Foyer (Stonewater)
Warrington Foyer (Verve Place)
YMCA Barnsley (allotment)
YMCA Barnsley (Dearne Valley Country Park)
YMCA Barnsley (the Fleets)
YMCA Basingstoke
YMCA Black Country Group
YMCA Brighton & Hove
YMCA Crawley
YMCA Derbyshire
YMCA Derbyshire (allotment)
YMCA Fairthorne Manor
YMCA Hirwaun
YMCA Horsham
YMCA Humber Peaks Lane Project
YMCA Liverpool
YMCA Norfolk
YMCA North Staffordshire
YMCA North Tyneside
YMCA Plymouth (2 orchards)
YMCA Port Talbot
YMCA Ryedale
YMCA Somerset Coast
YMCA Southampton
YMCA Sutton Coldfield
YMCA Swansea
YMCA Taunton
YMCA Taunton & Puriton Parish
YMCA Teesdale
YMCA White Rose
YMCA Worthing
Prune trees with fruits that contain pips

The orchard at YMCA Derby was planted by service users and volunteers as part of the Fruit-full Communities project.

For more information about how to look after the trees and what you can do in the orchard, check out the Fruit-full Communities folder available at your centre or ask a member of staff. Enjoy!

Design inspired by Andrew Cairns, YMCA North Tyneside

Organise a Wassail to ‘bless’ the trees as they sleep in the winter to encourage an abundant harvest.

Look online for some great ideas

Take a daily walk in the fresh air to clear your head

Fruit-full Communities was part of the Our Bright Future programme. Thousands of young people planted fruit trees and created beautiful outdoor spaces on their doorstep. You can join in by looking after your orchard, using it for relaxation, socialising and by making the most of fruit grown!

- Spending time outdoors and being active in nature has a positive impact on your health and wellbeing
- Trees play a vital role in every aspect of our lives. By caring for your orchard you will be helping our planet
- Gaining horticultural skills will increase your opportunities for work in the future

Summer
(June, July, August)
- Have a summer party or picnic
- Have a BBQ (if allowed) once a week. Look online for some simple recipes
- Celebrate in your orchard – the arrival of summer, centre anniversary, birthday parties etc
- Decorate flower pots and put plants in them to create gifts

Autumn
(September, October, November)
- Enjoy free food
- Celebrate Apple Day in October. Invite service users, staff and local community
- Make juice, jams and preserves
- Make and bake cakes, pies and crumbles. Raise money for your centre with a cake sale

Spring
(March, April, May)
- Organise an Easter Egg hunt in your orchard or celebrate Blossom Day
- Paint pebbles to create a memorial area

Winter
(December, January, February)
- Organise a Wassail to ‘bless’ the trees as they sleep in the winter to encourage an abundant harvest. Look online for some great ideas
- Take a daily walk in the fresh air to clear your head

- Prune soft and stone fruit trees
- Check for pests and diseases
- Water • Weed • Thin fruitlets
- Harvest soft fruit

- Check tree stakes
- Harvest all fruit
- Water
- Weed

- Check for pests and diseases
- Mulch with woodchips
- Remove old fruit
- Check ties and rubbing
- Mulch with woodchips
- Prune trees with fruits that contain pips

- Prune soft and stone fruit trees
- Check for pests and diseases
- Water • Weed • Thin fruitlets
- Harvest ripe fruit

- Water • Weed
- Harvest soft and stone fruit