



Newcomer's Gardening Snapshot for El Paso County, TX

- Growing season is April to early November.
- USDA Plant Hardiness Zones are 8a-8b – tolerates to low of 10° to 15° F (8a); 15° to 20° F (8b).
- U.S. Sunset Climate Zone is 10 (summer highs around 95° F; average winter minimums of 24° F to 31° F).
- Year-round average high temperature is 77.1° F. Year-round average low temperature is 52.1° F.
- Heat Zone is 9 (average number of days over 86° F is 121 to 150).
- First average frost is November 15. Last average frost is April 15.
- Average number of chilling hours is 590.
- Average snow is 3.5 inches.
- Average yearly rainfall is 9.43 inches. Very low humidity.
- Every month receives a little rain with the monsoon season being from June through August.
- Wettest month is July with an average of 1.67 inches of rain. Driest month is April with an average of 0.31 inches of rain.
- Dry, windy conditions are more prevalent in the spring, especially between March and early May, and can create sand and dust storms.
- Nicknamed "The Sun City", 84% of days are sunny days.

Helpful Websites:

- El Paso Master Gardeners - txmg.org/elpaso. Gardening questions? Call the Help Desk at 915-771-2354.
- El Paso Master Gardeners Facebook page – <https://www.facebook.com/ElPasoMasterGardeners/>
- *Good to Grow* Radio Show (KTEP 88.5) – <http://ktep.org/programs/good-grow>
- Ornamental Plants for Far West Texas –
<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/ornamentals/ElPasoPlants/index.html>
- Southwest Yard and Garden Plant Advisor – <http://desertblooms.nmsu.edu/plantadvisor/index.html>
- Easy Gardening Series - Vegetables – (in English and Spanish) –
<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/vegetable/easy-gardening-series/>
- El Paso Water Tech20 Events – <http://www.tech2o.org/events.html>

Local Public Gardens:

- Chihuahuan Desert Gardens at University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) –
<http://museum2.utep.edu/chih/gardens/gardens.htm>
- El Paso Desert Botanical Gardens at Keystone Heritage Park –
<http://keystoneheritagepark.com/>
- El Paso Municipal Rose Garden – <http://txmg.org/elpaso/projects/rose-garden/>

Soil Sample Kits available at Texas A&M AgriLife Extension. Call 915-771-2354.