



# NWS New York, NY

Serving the Metropolitan NY, NJ, CT Tri-State Area

## National Weather Service New York, NY's Frost/Freeze Program

The NWS Frost/Freeze program is designed to alert gardeners and growers that actions may needed to protect tender vegetation from potentially harmful cold temperatures.

The “**Growing Season**” is defined as the period between the median date of the last Spring Freeze and the median date of the first Fall Freeze. When a Frost or Freeze is expected during the “Growing Season”, the NWS will issue a **Frost Advisory** or **Freeze Warning** respectively. Actions in the spring can help protect young vegetation that is just in its early stages with actions in the fall possibly helping to prolong the season.

In 2024, NWS New York, NY will continue an experiment to issue fall season Frost/Freeze headlines as needed through about 10 days beyond the median date of the first freeze. This corresponds to the 75th-90th percentile of the first freeze date.



<u>Location</u>	<u>Frost/Freeze Program BEGINS</u>	<u>Frost/Freeze Program ENDS</u>
Interior Southern Connecticut Lower Hudson Valley Interior NE New Jersey	April 11 <sup>th</sup> - 21 <sup>st</sup>	November 1 <sup>st</sup>
Suffolk, Northern Nassau, and Southern Westchester Counties, Coastal Connecticut, and Eastern Bergen/Essex/Union Counties	April 1 <sup>st</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup>	November 11 <sup>th</sup>
New York City, Southern Nassau County, Hudson County	April 1 <sup>st</sup>	November 21 <sup>st</sup>

Outside of the growing season, the NWS will **not** issue any Frost or Freeze headlines, and strongly urges you to follow local forecasts of temperatures and take protective actions if needed.

Some terminology and guidance that may help you protect your vegetation:

**Frost** can occur when the temperatures fall to the mid 30s, especially in rural areas. It is a localized phenomena and frost occurrence can vary greatly across a small area.

**Frost** becomes more widespread when the temperature falls to 32°F or below with a **freeze** possible.

A **hard freeze** is possible when temperatures are ≤ 28°F.

Some protective measures may include;

- Bring plants inside or under some sort of cover.
- Covering your plants with a light weight fabric.
- Water the soil **BEFORE** as wet soils retain heat better.
- Heaters, smudge pots or wind machines – to mix the air so the average temperature near the ground is raised.

