

# Friendship International



FEBRUARY 20, 2026

## GET YOUR GARDEN READY

Even though winter is not quite finished, late February and early March are important weeks for eager gardeners.

If you would like to grow vegetables like tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, broccoli, or cabbage, now is the time to start seeds indoors. These plants need about six to eight weeks of growth before they can safely move outside.

In Lexington, our average last frost is around mid-April, so starting them indoors now gives them a healthy head start. To start seedlings indoors, you'll need small containers with drainage holes, potting mix (not regular garden soil), seeds, and a bright light source such as a sunny window or grow lights. A spray bottle or small watering can also help keep the soil evenly moist without disturbing the seeds.

For those who prefer planting directly outdoors, early March often works for cold-hardy vegetables such as spinach, lettuce, kale, peas, and carrots. These crops tolerate cool soil and even light frost. Watching the weather forecast helps, but they are much tougher than summer vegetables.

This is also a good time to cut back ornamental grasses, trim certain shrubs, and divide perennials like hostas or daylilies before new growth begins. Adding compost to garden beds now improves soil and prepares it for spring planting.

Here's the good news - You do not need a large yard to experience a garden! Even a few containers on a porch can grow herbs, greens, or flowers. As we wait out the final days of winter, it's encouraging to look ahead to spring and summer - and getting a head start on your garden is a simple, hopeful way to begin.



## UPCOMING DATES

February 20	Popular Hacks
February 27	Group Wedding Dances
March 6	Program To Be Determined
March 8	Daylight Saving Time Begins
March 13	Honoring Our Heritage

# CELEBRATE LUNAR NEW YEAR

**Saturday, February 21st**  
**2-3PM**  
**Eastside Branch**  
**3000 Blake James Drive**



Join the Chinese Club from the University of Kentucky at the Eastside branch of the Lexington Library to celebrate Lunar New Year 2026.

Enjoy Yang Qin music, make mooncakes and kites, and learn Chinese calligraphy and games. Come learn, play, and celebrate the Lunar New Year together! For families.

[Click here for more info](#)

## WINTER ZOO DAYS

Does your family love to visit the zoo? Nearby cities of Louisville and Cincinnati have impressive zoos that are worth the drive. Both of these zoos have special deals during the winter months, and there are a few more days left to take advantage of those deals! With the temperatures warming up, and probably lower crowds, you might have a lovely day at the zoo.

Certain rules and restrictions apply. Read more details at the links below.



[Louisville Zoo Winter Deals](#)

[Cincinnati Zoo Winter Deals](#)



[START YOUR OWN INDOOR HERB GARDEN](#)



[TRY THIS HEARTY ONE POT SAUSAGE GNOCCHI SOUP](#)