



VEGETABLE GARDEN PLANNING GUIDE

MARCH

- Early March is a great time to plan your garden layout.
- Make corrections and amendments to your garden if the soil has dried out enough.
- Start eggplant, peppers and tomatoes INDOORS.
- Plant bare root raspberries and strawberries.
- Plant kohlrabi, lettuce, parsnip, potatoes, rhubarb asparagus, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, parsley, swiss chard, spinach, turnips, onion, peas from mid-March until the first part of May.
- Plant carrots, beets and endive from mid-March until mid-June.
- Plant radishes from mid-March until September.
- Use floating row cover to help warm the soil for faster plant growth.

APRIL

- Remove weeds as they they appear so the task does not become overwhelming.
- Thin out seedlings as necessary.
- Look over garden-check for insects and diseases; apply pesticide only as necessary.
- Plant a second crop of lettuce and radishes.
- Transplant your seedlings into larger pots.
- Fertilize seedlings that were started indoors.

MAY

- Clean, sharpen and inventory tools-make sure you will have the right tools when you need them.
- Harden off seedlings that were started indoors.
- Mulch, weed and thin out seedlings as necessary.
- Keep checking for pests to keep the upper hand.
- Last chance to plant early crops such as peas, onions cabbage and potatoes, etc.
- Plant dry beans and snap beans from the first part of May until the first part of June
- Plant eggplant, peppers, tomato starts from mid-May until the first part of June. Protect from frost.
- Plant winter squash, summer squash, melons, cucumber and watermelon from late May until early June.
- Plant corn when the ground warms up at the end of May thru the first part of June.

JUNE

- Keep a garden diary-this will help you plan next year's garden.
- Plant a second crop of carrots and endive.
- It is still early enough to plant cucumbers and summer squash.
- Side dress crops with fertilizer every four weeks.
- Work the soil, add compost and weed-be careful not to injure plant roots.
- Thin seedlings.
- Mulch as necessary to help hold moisture in the soil.
- Monitor watering. Deep soak and water less frequently.
- Watch for diseases and pests. Before you kill it know if your pest is a "friend" or "foe". Use pesticides only as necessary.



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JULY

- Plant beets and turnips for fall harvest.
- Thin out plants and fertilize.
- Fertilize potatoes with nitrogen.
- Watch watering on tomatoes! Even deep watering is better than frequent shallow watering to avoid blossom end rot.
- Irrigate at ground level rather than over head spray to avoid diseases.
- Keep looking for any signs of pests. Use insecticides only as necessary.
- Stake tomatoes if you haven't already.
- Remove suckers and pinch back tomatoes as necessary.

AUGUST

- Plant fall garden crops like kale and spinach
- Pick hornworms off tomato plants.
- Pick cucumbers regularly.
- Start collecting zucchini recipes-you're going to need them.
- Continue to deep soak your garden.
- Mulch around crops that may be drying out too fast, it will also help keep the roots cool.
- Apply fertilizer.
- Keep weeding-do not let weeds go to seed.
- Know when to harvest for optimum flavor.
- Enjoy the fruits of your labor!!

SEPTEMBER

- Keep up with weed and pest control. Use pesticides only as necessary.
- Don't be in a hurry to harvest your pumpkins.
- Cut off asparagus tops.
- Mulch rhubarb.
- Once harvest is complete pull up spent plants. Compost if you have not had significant insect or disease problems.

OCTOBER

- Learn the best methods to store vegetables.
- Harvest or protect the last of your garden from frost.
- Finish clean up of garden debris.
- Clean, sharpen and oil garden tools.
- Review your garden diary.