

GARDEN CLUB: VEGETABLE GARDEN PLANNING

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Welcome & Introductions



Nourishing
People, Community & the Earth



Welcome & Introductions

1. Who has grown vegetables before?
2. Are there any vegetables in particular you are interested in growing and learning more about?
3. Do you normally plan your garden or wing it?
4. For those of you who have planned before, where are you in the process of planning?

First Consideration when planning a garden

- **Zone 4b in St. Louis Park, MN**
 - May 15th-Oct 15th
- **Space**
 - Is it at your house? In a Community Garden? A neighbors garden?
 - Raised bed? In ground? Container?



First Considerations when planning a garden

● Light

- Where does the most sunlight hit?
- Lots of shade? Don't worry! Lots of things will grow in the shade!

- Salad Greens
- Spinach
- Arugula
- Mustard Greens
- Broccoli
- Peas
- Beets
- Radishes
- Chard
- Kale
- Herbs
- Scallions
- Cucumber/Squash



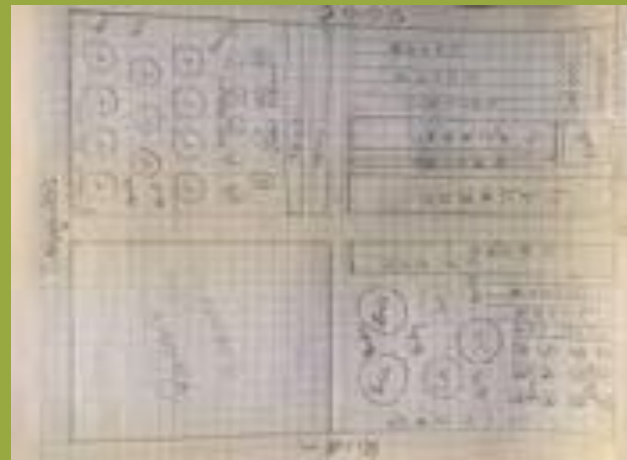
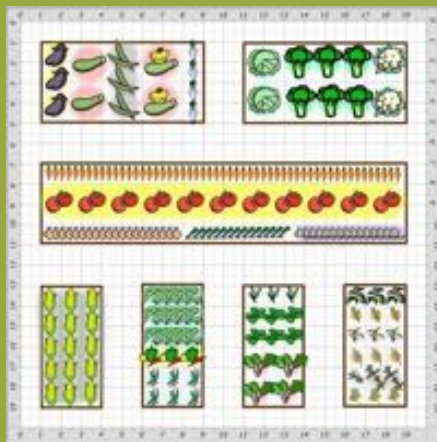
Considerations when planning a garden

- **Water Source**
 - Hose? Drip Irrigation? Rain Barrel? Jollas?
- **Soil**
 - Get it tested!
 - Add amendments
- **Wind**
- **Time**
- **Money**
- **Uses**
 - Children learning opportunities?
Cooking? Pollinators? Saving Seed?



Draw a map!

- Try to be as accurate as you can
 - Can use paper, or an online program
 - (I like growveg)
 - Try to include notes about sun, water, etc...
- Don't forget walking paths!



Make a wishlist

- What do you like to eat?
- What is difficult to find at the grocery store?
- What do you know you can grow?
 - Easy crops to start from seed:
 - Radish, beans, beets, lettuce, peas, cucumber, squash
 - Easy crops to start from seedling:
 - Tomatoes, Bell Peppers, Onions
- Do you want your garden to have a specific purpose or them?



KEEP IT SIMPLE!



Plant Families

- Main Vegetable Crop Families:
 - Brassicas (Broccoli, Cauliflower, Cabbage, Kale)
 - Cucurbits (Melons, Cucumber, Pumpkin, Squash)
 - Allium (Onions, Garlic, Scallions)
 - Umbel (Carrots, Parsnip, Dill, Parsley, Fennel)
 - Chenopods (Chard, Spinach, Beets)
 - Legume (beans, peas, clover)
 - Solanum (Tomatoes, peppers, potatoes, eggplants)
 - Aster (Lettuce, Artichoke, Sunflower)
 - Malvales (Okra, Hibiscus)



Cool crops

- Brassicas
- Peas
- Onions



Warm Crops

- Tomatoes
- Eggplants
- Peppers
- Summer Squash



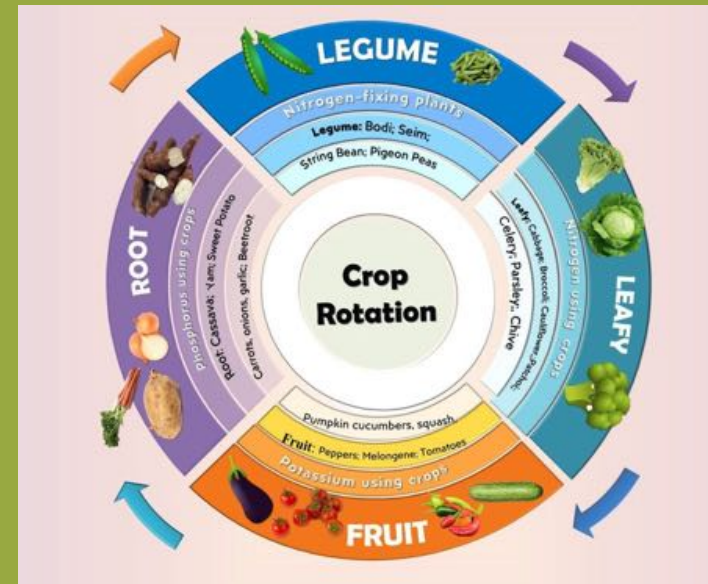
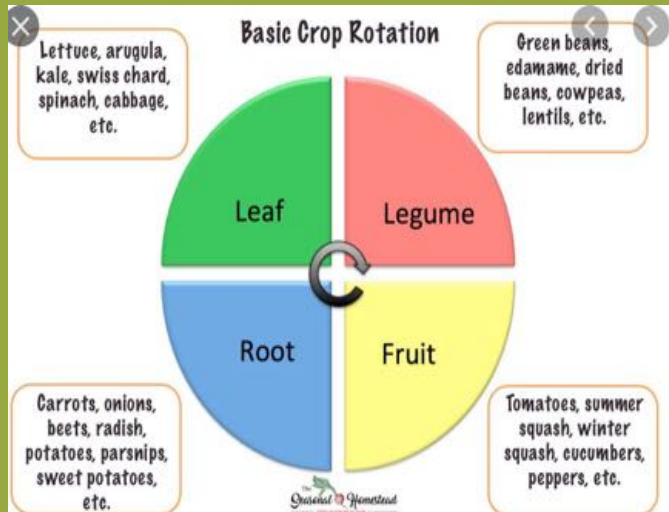
Hot (tender) Crops

- Cucumbers
- Watermelons
- Winter Squash
- Beans



Crop Rotations

- Legume - Leaf - Root - Fruit
- Legume - brassica - roots - cucurbits - other
- OR just change up the family



Companion Planting/ Interplanting/ Succession Planting

Benefits:

- More food!
- Helps with pests
- Better for Soil
- Better tasting food
- Aesthetically pleasing



Companion Planting

Examples:

- 3 sisters
- Basil & Tomatoes (and carrots)
- Borage & Strawberries
- Beets, Broccoli, Radishes
- Onions & Carrots
- Nasturtium
- Cabbage & Marigolds
- Adding Flowers



Companion Planting

- Row Cropping
- Strip Cropping
- Mixed intercropping



Succession Planting

1. Plant same vegetable every 2-4 weeks for continual yield
2. Short season & long season vegetables in same place
3. Same plant, different maturities



Plantings per season

- **Single planting per season**

- Tomatoes, winter squash, cabbage, brussel sprouts, peppers

- **2 plantings per season**

- Peas followed by carrots
- Spinach followed by eggplants
- Lettuce followed by turnips

- **3 way successions**

- Peas, broccoli, spinach
- Bok Choy, Bush Bean, Lettuce
- Radish, Carrot, Spinach

- **4 way succession**

- Peas, bok choy, spinach, garlic
- Spinach, radish, peas, arugula



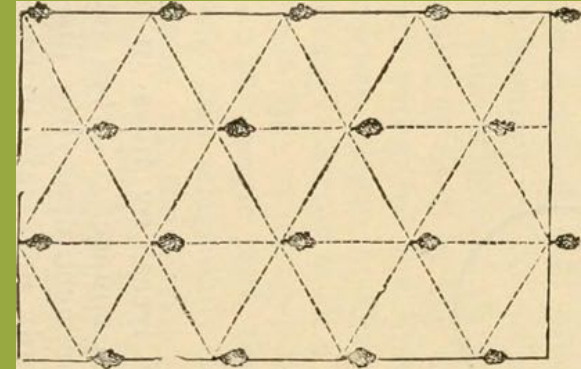
Things to remember with Succession planting

1. Add compost or mulch
2. Don't hesitate to pull older plants to make way for new ones
3. Can start indoors in July



Spacing Techniques

- Rows vs Triangular vs interplanting vs. hexagonal
- Think vertical!
- Know how much space your plant needs and don't be afraid to thin
- Square foot gardening



High Value Crops

- Start mapping out by putting the crops most important to YOU first



Quick note on starting seeds

- Transplanting vs Direct sowing
- Starting your own vs buying at a nursery
- Harden off!



Planting

- Prepare your soil
- Timing
- **BE FLEXIBLE**



General Care

- Watering
- Training
- Thinning
- Mulching
- Weeding
- Pruning



SEEDS opportunities

- Next Garden Club on February 9th 5-6pm
- Plant Sale (Pre-sale starting soon)
- Cook With Us
- YEP classes
- Committees
 - Schoolyard Urban Farm
 - Marketing
 - Programming
 - Development
- Internships
- Volunteer opportunities
- PDC 2021



Contact Information

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