



GROWING GARDENS

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Tomatoes – Peppers – Eggplant Tomatillos

SEEDS FOR SUCCESS

A NEWSLETTER FROM GROWING GARDENS
APRIL – JUNE 2008

May 3 – Plant Give Away Day!

GET YOUR PLANT STARTS!

Saturday, May 3rd, 12:00-2:00pm
St. Andrews Church, NE 8th Ave & Alberta



*If you received a garden before 2006,
please come after 1pm.*

Register for a Workshop! (503-284-8420)

* These will also be held at St. Andrews in the Community Room

10:00-12:00: Starting a Dinner Garden
Parent-Child Workshop

2:00-4:00: Gardening Basics

Summer Squash – Winter Squash – Basil – Cherry Tomatoes

Tomatoes – Peppers – Eggplant Tomatillos

Upcoming Workshops & Events

Learn & Grow Workshops

Healthy Soil for Healthy Plants

Wednesday, April 2nd, 6:00-8:00pm (SE)

Saturday, April 19th, 10:00-12:00 (N/NE)

Natural Pest Management

Tuesday, May 6th, 6:00-8:00pm (NE)

Container Gardening

Tuesday, May 13th, 6:00-8:00pm (NE)

Summer Planting for Winter Eating

Thursday, June 5th, 6:00-8:00pm (NE)

Tuesday, June 10th, 6:00-8:00pm (SE)

Introduction to Permaculture

Wednesday, June 18th, 6:00-8:00pm (SE)

Work-Learn Parties

Trellising

Saturday, April 12th, 10:00am-12:00pm

Planting in Containers

Saturday, May 10th, 10:00am-12:00pm

Harvest a Worm Compost Bin

Thursday, June 14th, 6:00-7:30pm



Want to Sign Up?

Call Emily at 503-284-8420

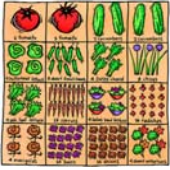
or email emily@growing-gardens.org

Both our Learn & Grow workshops and Work-Learn parties are free for our home gardeners.

GROWING GARDENS ~ 2003 NE 42ND AVE. #3, PORTLAND, OR 97202

503-284-8420 ~ INFO@GROWING-GARDENS.ORG ~ WWW.GROWING-GARDENS.ORG

Spring Planting Calendar



Some vegetables grow well when you plant them from a seed, and others prefer to be transplanted. Transplanting means taking a plant that has been started inside or in a greenhouse and planting it in the ground outdoors. Make sure to come to Plant Give Away Day to get all of the transplants you will need for your garden!

*Remember that you can grow more by using the square foot gardening model (see winter newsletter). Instead of planting in rows, plant by the square foot— leaving the recommended space around each plant.

Plant from Seed						Transplants
Plant	Spacing	When?	Plant	Spacing	When?	
Beans	Bush; 2-6" Pole; 12-24"	May-June	Lettuce	Head; 12" Leaf; 6"	April-Aug	Cucumbers
Beets	2"	March-June	Parsely	8"	March-June	Eggplant
Carrots	2"	March-July	Parsnip	3"	April-May	Peppers
Chard	12"	April-July	Peas	2"	April-July	Summer & Winter Squash
Corn	15"	April-June	Radish	1-2"	March-Sept	Cherry Tomatoes
Kale	24"	May-July	Rutabega	3"	June-July	Slicing & Sauce Tomatoes
Kohlrabi	3"	April-Aug 15	Spinach	3"	April	Hot peppers
Leeks	2"	March-May	Turnip	2"	April-Sept.	Tomatillos
						Basil

Design a "Dinner Garden" With Your Family This Year

A dinner garden is dedicated to a meal your family loves to eat. One example is a **pizza garden**. If pizza is a family favorite, consider creating a circle (the shape of a pizza) or a triangle (the shape of a slice) in your garden. Then plant ingredients that you love to eat on your pizza; try tomatoes, onion, basil or oregano for the sauce, and green peppers, squash or eggplant for toppings.

What about cheese & pepperoni? Since they can't be grown in the garden, some people like to grow (or leave) a little patch of grass to honor the cows who produce these ingredients.



What about the crust? Wheat berries are available in the bulk section of some grocery stores and can be planted in the garden. You probably won't grow enough wheat for an entire pizza crust but it is neat to see what wheat plants look like.

What about pineapple or olives? Pineapples & olives grow in a warmer climate than Portland and are shipped here from Hawaii, California or even from other countries! This could lead into a conversation about climate zones, locally grown food and transportation.

Once all ingredients are ripe, plan a special dinner of fresh, garden-grown veggie pizzas!

Sign up for our Spring Parent-Child Workshops! (503-284-8420)

Planting the Seeds for Your Garden

Saturday, April 5th, 10:30 - 12:00pm
Wednesday, April 16th, 5:30 - 7:00pm

Planning a Dinner Garden; pizza, salsa, salad or tacos

Saturday, May 3rd, 10:00 - 12:00pm
Wednesday, May 14th, 5:30 - 7:00pm

Home Gardener Spotlight!

Minnie Anderson



Minnie's fabulous container gardening skills are an inspiration to us all. Though she unfortunately had to move this year, her story and advice are worth sharing.

"I'm living in Denver now and I can't wait to start my garden this year. I've already drawn up my plans for both vegetables and flowers and I'm even raising chickens in one corner of my backyard. So far it has the makings of a really great year!

Happy Gardening!"

Favorite Vegetable? "My favorite plant was my eggplant because they produce such beautiful flowers when they grow. It was the first time I'd ever grown eggplants but they were so easy!"

What's the best thing about Gardening? "I love gardening and it was such a pleasure sharing my produce with neighbors and going to all of the *Growing Gardens* events."

Words of Wisdom: "Don't let other people try to talk you out of trying something new."

Neighborhood Networks

Thanks to all that attended our February Neighborhood Network Seed-Swaps!

We had great fun swapping seeds and gardening tips, eating delicious pizza and getting to know one another at our NE and SE get-togethers.

We'll be hosting more neighborhood network events later this spring, so keep your eyes peeled for an announcement!

Volunteer Opportunities

Want to get involved with *Growing Gardens* this spring? Here is a listing of our current volunteer opportunities.

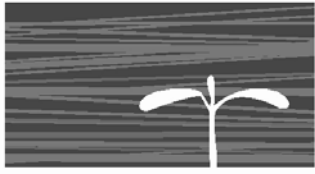
Garden Installations:

Saturdays April 5th, 12th and 19th from 10-3pm. Let us know if you would like to come along! Bring some water, lunch, and enthusiasm! Children over 10 are welcome.

Plant Give Away Day on May 3rd:

We need volunteers before, during, and after the event to help us pick up plants, set up and clean up.

Feel free to call our office to see if there is an event or volunteer opportunity coming up! 503-284-8420



GROWING GARDENS

2003 NE 42nd Ave. # 3
Portland, OR 97213

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Container Gardening

With enough light, soil, nutrients, drainage and love, vegetables can grow almost anywhere- and out of most everything. Just prepare your containers properly and choose container-happy plants such as smaller varieties or bush and dwarf varieties.

What do I need?	Where can I put it?	What Can I Grow?
Containers (get creative!) Soil Seeds Natural Fertilizer Seeds and/or plant starts	Anywhere that gets enough sun! Porches — Patios Window Sills or Boxes Steps — Fences	It is important to choose plant varieties that are best suited for containers as they will have less space and soil to grow in than usual. * Use trellises for fruit-bearing plants like tomatoes, eggplants, peppers & cucumbers.

Preparing your containers- Drainage 101

If your container doesn't have drainage holes you will need to create some. Consider this method:

- 1) Drill holes on the sides ~1" up from the bottom, all the way around.
- 2) Fill the bottom inch of the pot with gravel, perlite, vermiculite or clay pellets.
- 3) Put potting soil on top and plant as usual!

Preparing containers this way means that when you water, 1" of water will stay in the bottom of the container. This will keep the roots of your plant happy and encourage them to grow downward. It will also mean you won't have to water as much! Water once or twice per week by filling the bucket until you see it start dripping out of the side holes.