

Month to Month School Vegetable Garden Check List

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A companion guide to the ***Grow to Learn*** handbook.
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PREPARATION AND PLANNING

Consult: Seminole County Master Gardeners, Grow to Learn: Appendix - Getting Started Checklist

Consider: Goals and objectives for garden, location, maintenance

Recruiting: Teachers, Administration, District Resources, Dividends, Master Gardeners, potential students

Plan: Lay out a plan for the garden, bed placement, crops to plant, utilities placement, irrigation

Schedule: Develop a month to month vegetable schedule

GATHER SUPPLIES BASED ON GARDEN PLAN:

Example Supplies

School & Office Supplies: Pens or permanent markers, graph paper, ruler/measuring tape, notebooks, blunt-tip scissors, Popsicle sticks/tongue depressors

Hardware/Tools: Garden tools, Linseed oil (clean tools), rolled sheet plastic

Housewares: Plastic baggies/paper lunch bags; plastic containers with lids; towels, plastic storage containers, cardboard boxes, newspaper, Cardboard egg cartons

Clothing: Child-sized gloves, aprons or big shirts, large hats

Nursery (check to see if they'll donate): Seeds, worm bin, mulch, potting soil, pots, compost bin, organic fertilizer

DIG DEEPER AT:

http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/lawn_and_garden/calendar/#central

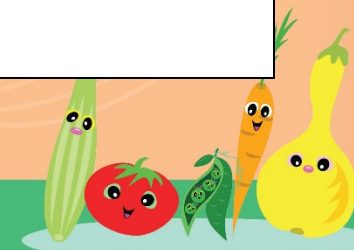
http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener/newsletter/2012/more/school_gardening.shtml





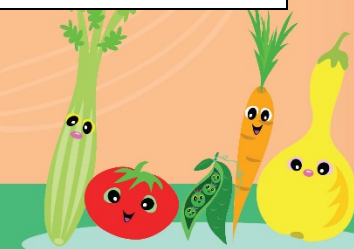
June/July

Garden(s)	Crops	Students/Volunteers	Miscellaneous
<input type="checkbox"/> Select site(s) and identify water source <input type="checkbox"/> Harvest remainder of crops <input type="checkbox"/> Till the soil to expose pests to sunlight and wildlife. <input type="checkbox"/> Put waste material in compost <input type="checkbox"/> Turn compost <input type="checkbox"/> Refresh garden bed media <input type="checkbox"/> Install/repair/redesign irrigation (Drip system) <input type="checkbox"/> Water the garden bed media <input type="checkbox"/> Solarize garden bed if soil pests were a problem <input type="checkbox"/> Cover with black plastic (omit this if you plan to solarize)	<input type="checkbox"/> Develop a month to month vegetable schedule <input type="checkbox"/> Choose crops to grow for next gardening year <input type="checkbox"/> Order seeds for the next years "warm season" and "cool season" vegetables <input type="checkbox"/> Start seedlings for "warm season" vegetables to be used as transplant in mid-August. Tomato, eggplant, pepper, squash, pumpkins, watermelon <input type="checkbox"/> Plant tomatoes in containers	<input type="checkbox"/> Assemble volunteer contact lists for students, teachers, dividends, administration, District resources, Master Gardener <input type="checkbox"/> Develop Orientation Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Set up meeting(s) schedule and agenda(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Advise all volunteers about meeting(s) information	<input type="checkbox"/> Inventory all supplies on hand and create a needs list. <input type="checkbox"/> Arrange to collect all donated items and send thank you <input type="checkbox"/> Is there a need for a Master Gardener present at an open house during the year?



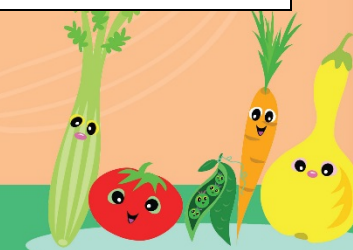


Garden(s)	Crops	Students/Volunteers	Miscellaneous
<input type="checkbox"/> Remove plastic film used to solarize garden <input type="checkbox"/> Remove weeds <input type="checkbox"/> Refresh garden bed media <input type="checkbox"/> Apply organic fertilizer <input type="checkbox"/> Install/adjust irrigation system <input type="checkbox"/> Water the garden bed media <input type="checkbox"/> Get soil tested <input type="checkbox"/> Design plan for “warm season” garden. Leave space for “cool season” vegetables <input type="checkbox"/> Put waste material in compost <input type="checkbox"/> Turn compost	<input type="checkbox"/> Continue care of seedlings, tomato, eggplant, pepper, squash, pumpkins, watermelon <input type="checkbox"/> Herbs: Lavender, Mexican tarragon, mint, oregano and rosemary	<input type="checkbox"/> Meet with Master Gardener: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reference material • Plan training • Arrange for speakers • Soil Testing • Garden design <input type="checkbox"/> Hold orientation meeting and work sessions for students, parents, dividends <input type="checkbox"/> Sign up volunteers <input type="checkbox"/> Set first meeting to develop a month to month schedule for meeting, training sessions, etc. <input type="checkbox"/> Discuss watering and irrigation systems (How about a rain gauge)	<input type="checkbox"/> Identify reference material needs <input type="checkbox"/> Get a list of presentations offered by Master Gardeners





Garden(s)	Crops	Students/Volunteers	Miscellaneous
<input type="checkbox"/> Herbs: Plant anise, basil, parsley and thyme <input type="checkbox"/> Plant transplants and seeds (warm Season crops) <input type="checkbox"/> Install trellis, cages for vine plants <input type="checkbox"/> Keep garden bed media moist <input type="checkbox"/> Control pests as needed <input type="checkbox"/> Put waste material in compost <input type="checkbox"/> Turn compost <input type="checkbox"/> Apply organic fertilizer <input type="checkbox"/> Leave space for cool season crops to be planted next year	<input type="checkbox"/> Thin vegetables and weed as required <input type="checkbox"/> Start (cool season) seedlings of lettuce, cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, collards, etc. See Florida Vegetable Garden Guide; table at end of this guide	<input type="checkbox"/> Training sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is a compost pile and what does it mean to "turn compost" • Review good and bad bugs • Types of pest control • Review organic fertilizer • Need for trellis and cages <input type="checkbox"/> Review training needs with Master Gardener <input type="checkbox"/> Select training session topics and dates	<input type="checkbox"/> Use Master Gardener as resource for training, speakers, reference material, etc. <input type="checkbox"/> Make a demonstration call to the Master Gardener Help Desk





Garden(s)	Crops	Students/Volunteers	Miscellaneous
<input type="checkbox"/> Train vining crops to climb trellis, cages, etc. <input type="checkbox"/> Control pests as needed Fertilize warm season crops as needed <input type="checkbox"/> Put waste material in compost <input type="checkbox"/> Turn compost <input type="checkbox"/> Keep garden bed media moist <input type="checkbox"/> Keep garden paths mulched and/or mowed	<input type="checkbox"/> Harvest "warm season" vegetables as they mature <input type="checkbox"/> Remove plants that are no longer productive and add to compost <input type="checkbox"/> Plant transplants and seeds for "cool season" vegetables	<input type="checkbox"/> Select training session topic and date for monthly meeting <input type="checkbox"/> Review Florida Vegetable Garden Guide	<input type="checkbox"/> Work with Master Gardener on the meeting and arrange for speaker





Garden(s)	Crops	Students/Volunteers	Miscellaneous
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigate during morning hours (6-10 a.m.) with drip irrigation to discourage disease <input type="checkbox"/> Put waste material in compost <input type="checkbox"/> Turn compost <input type="checkbox"/> Fertilize crops <input type="checkbox"/> Control pest as needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Continue to harvest “warm season” vegetables and remove plants that are no longer productive <input type="checkbox"/> Harvest some “cut and come again” crops from the “cool season” plantings <input type="checkbox"/> Continue planting “cool season” crops as “succession plantings”, beets broccoli, cabbage, carrot, kale, lettuce 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule meeting for December and set up agenda <input type="checkbox"/> Holiday “pot luck” <input type="checkbox"/> Discuss “cut and come again” crops and “succession plantings” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Work with Master Gardener on the meeting and arrange for speaker <input type="checkbox"/> 4 “H” Speaker



DECEMBER

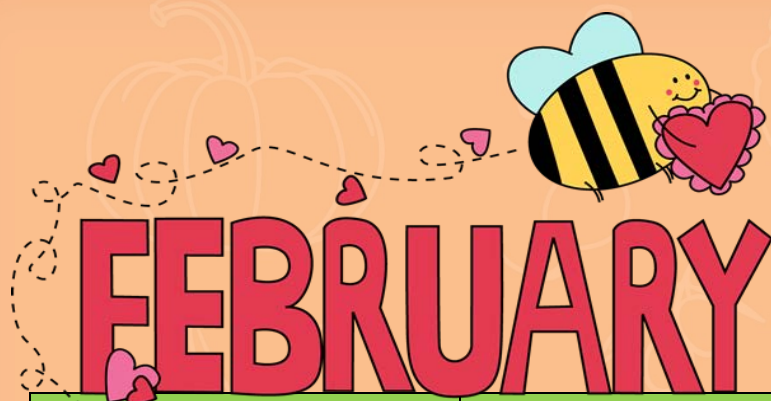
Garden(s)	Crops	Students/Volunteers	Miscellaneous
<input type="checkbox"/> Put waste material in compost <input type="checkbox"/> Turn compost <input type="checkbox"/> Control pest as needed <input type="checkbox"/> Organic fertilize as needed <input type="checkbox"/> Refresh garden bed media <input type="checkbox"/> Keep garden path weeded/cut <input type="checkbox"/> Who watches the garden during the holidays? <input type="checkbox"/> Remove trellis/cages, etc <input type="checkbox"/> Adjust irrigation system	<input type="checkbox"/> Harvest last of “warm season” vegetables <input type="checkbox"/> Plant more cool season vegetable	<input type="checkbox"/> Discuss “scouting the garden” <input type="checkbox"/> Devise a list of materials needed to start “warm season” seeds in January <input type="checkbox"/> Pick “warm season” crops	<input type="checkbox"/> Review Florida Vegetable Garden Guide for “warm season” plants <input type="checkbox"/> Obtain materials and seeds needed for January <input type="checkbox"/> Work with Master Gardener on the meeting and arrange for speaker <input type="checkbox"/> Start a garden at home over the “holidays”



January

Garden(s)	Crops	Students/Volunteers	Miscellaneous
<input type="checkbox"/> Is garden prepared for cold/freezes? <input type="checkbox"/> Put waste material in compost <input type="checkbox"/> Turn compost <input type="checkbox"/> Control pest as needed <input type="checkbox"/> Organic fertilize as needed <input type="checkbox"/> Refresh garden bed media <input type="checkbox"/> Keep garden path weeded/cut <input type="checkbox"/> Keep garden bed moist	<input type="checkbox"/> Start "warm season" seeds indoors near end of the month, tomato, pepper, eggplant, squash, beans <input type="checkbox"/> Plant more cool season vegetables <input type="checkbox"/> Harvest crops as they reach maturity	<input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrate how to start seeds <input type="checkbox"/> Take home "starters" <input type="checkbox"/> Discuss "cold weather" preparation <input type="checkbox"/> What are "sets"? <input type="checkbox"/> Guest speaker on constructing a rain barrel	<input type="checkbox"/> Work with Master Gardener on the meeting and arrange for speaker <input type="checkbox"/> Water Conservation speaker





Garden(s)	Crops	Students/Volunteers	Miscellaneous
<input type="checkbox"/> Put waste material in compost <input type="checkbox"/> Turn compost <input type="checkbox"/> Scout/Control pests as needed <input type="checkbox"/> Soil test garden <input type="checkbox"/> Apply organic fertilizer <input type="checkbox"/> Refresh garden bed media <input type="checkbox"/> Keep garden path weeded/cut	<input type="checkbox"/> Do not plant anything new <input type="checkbox"/> Continue care of new seedlings	<input type="checkbox"/> Follow up on early meetings/training <input type="checkbox"/> Optional: Discuss Hydroponics, Aquaponics <input type="checkbox"/> What is "organic"	<input type="checkbox"/> Work with Master Gardener on the meeting and arrange for speaker



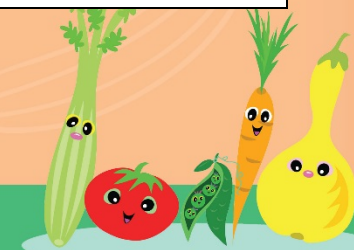


Garden(s)	Crops	Students/Volunteers	Miscellaneous
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Put waste material in compost <input type="checkbox"/> Turn compost <input type="checkbox"/> Install trellis, cages, etc <input type="checkbox"/> Scout/Control pests as needed <input type="checkbox"/> Apply organic fertilizer <input type="checkbox"/> Refresh garden bed media <input type="checkbox"/> Look into mulch use <input type="checkbox"/> Keep garden path weeded/cut 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Remove most of the “cool season” vegetables; onions and potatoes may take a little longer, watch them <input type="checkbox"/> Plant transplants (“warm season”) crops <input type="checkbox"/> Plant warm season seeds/plants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What is a “transplant” <input type="checkbox"/> What is “mulch” <input type="checkbox"/> Plan for care during Spring Break 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Work with Master Gardener on the meeting and arrange for speaker



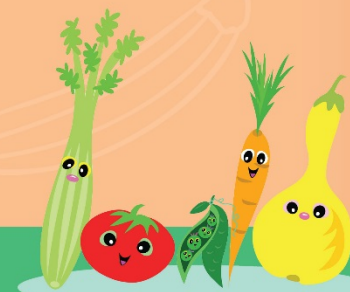


Garden(s)	Crops	Students/Volunteers	Miscellaneous
<input type="checkbox"/> Put waste material in compost <input type="checkbox"/> Turn compost <input type="checkbox"/> Train vining crops to climb trellis, cages, etc <input type="checkbox"/> Scout/Control pests as needed <input type="checkbox"/> Apply organic fertilizer "warm season" crops as needed <input type="checkbox"/> Weed and refresh garden bed media <input type="checkbox"/> Keep garden path weeded/cut	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove remaining "cool season" vegetables <input type="checkbox"/> Plant out more "warm season" vegetables-think about ones you want to grow throughout the summer: okra, sweet potatoes, southern peas, cherry tomatoes. See Florida Vegetable Garden Guide	<input type="checkbox"/> Make plans for the garden during the summer break <input type="checkbox"/> Discuss tropical vegetables. See Florida Garden Vegetable Guide	<input type="checkbox"/> Work with Master Gardener on the final meeting and arrange for speaker <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule meeting/party <input type="checkbox"/> Possible "pot luck", certificates and other recognitions



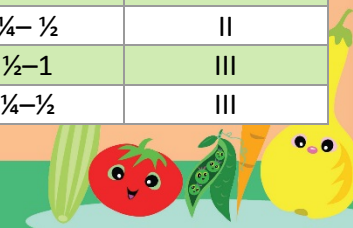


Garden(s)	Crops	Students/Volunteers	Miscellaneous
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Put waste material in compost <input type="checkbox"/> Turn compost <input type="checkbox"/> Keep garden bed moist. Watch out for seasonal rain overwatering <input type="checkbox"/> Scout/Control pests as needed <input type="checkbox"/> Apply organic fertilizer "warm season" crops as needed <input type="checkbox"/> Keep garden path weeded/cut 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Time to clean up problematic "warm season" vegetable plants. "Thin out" <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Cover crops, put down weedcloth, or consider Solarization. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> When does Summer Break begin? <input type="checkbox"/> Finalize plans for the garden during the summer break <input type="checkbox"/> Announce end of year meeting/party 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Provide some general thoughts on next year



PLANTING GUIDE FOR CENTRAL FLORIDA VEGETABLES

Crop	Planting Dates in Central Florida	Yield per 10 ft (lbs)	Plants per 10 ft ¹	Days to Harvest ²	Spacing (inches)		Seed depth (inches)	Transplant Ability ⁴
					Plants	Rows ³		
Arugula	Sept–Mar	2.5	30–40	35–60	3–4	10	¼	I
Beans, bush	Feb–Apr & Aug–Sept	4.5	30–60	45–60	2–4	18	1–1½	III
Beans, pole	Feb–Apr & Aug–Sept	8	24–40	50–70	3–5	36	1–1½	III
Beans, lima	Feb–Mar & Aug–Sept	5	20–40	60–80	3–6	18	1–1½	III
Beets	Sept–Feb	7.5	30–60	50–70	2–4	12	½ –1	I
Broccoli	Sept–Feb	5	8–12	75–90 (50–70)	10–15	24	¼– ½	I
Brussels Sprouts	Sept–Feb	10	5–7	90–120 (70–90)	18–24	24	¼–½	I
Cabbage	Sept–Feb	12	8–13	85–110 (70–90)	9–16	24	¼– ½	I
Cantaloupes	Jan–Mar	15	4–6	85–110 (70–90)	20–36	60	½–1	III
Carrots	Aug–Mar	10	40–120	70–120	1–3	10	¼	II
Cauliflower	Sept–Feb	8	7–10	75–90 (50–70)	12–18	24	¼– ½	I
Celery	Sept–Mar	15	10–20	75–90	6–12	18	On surface	II
Chinese cabbage	Sept–Apr	10	7–9	70–90 (60–70)	14–18	14	¼ – ½	I
Collards	Sept–Feb	15	5–10	70–90 (50–70)	12–24	24	¼– ½	I
Corn, sweet	Jan–Apr	12	15–20	65–90	6–8	28	1–1½	III
Cucumbers	Jan–Mar Sept	10	10–20	40–65	6–12	48	½–¾	III
Eggplant	Jan–Feb & Aug–Sept	20	3–7	90–115 (70–90)	18–40	36	½–¾	I
Endive/ Escarole	Aug–Feb	7.5	8–9	60–80	14–16	18	¼	I
Kale	Sept–Feb	7.5	9–10	50–70	8–12	18–	¼– ½	I
Kohlrabi	Oct–Mar	10	24–40	70–80 (50–55)	3–5	24	½	I
Lettuce	Sept–Feb	7.5	10–15	60–80	8–12	18	¼	I
Mustard	Sept–Feb	10	12–24	40–50	5–10	12	¼– ½	II
Okra	Feb–Aug	7	12–30	60–70	4–10	36	½–1	III
Onions, Bulbing	Oct	10	30	100–130	4–6	14	¼–½	III



Crop	Planting Dates in Central Florida	Yield per 10 ft (lbs)	Plants per 10 ft ¹	Days to Harvest ²	Spacing (inches)		Seed depth (inches)	Transplant Ability ⁴
					Plants	Rows ³		
Onions, Bunching (Green and Shallots)	Aug–Mar	10	30	50–75 (green) 75–100 (shallots)	2 (green) 6–8 (shallots)	14	¼–½	III
Peas, Snow or English	Nov–Feb	4	20–60	60–80	2–6	12	1–1½	III
Peas, southern	Feb–Aug	8	20–60	75–90	2–6	12	1–1½	III
Peppers	Jan–Mar & Aug–Sept	5	8–13	90–100 (65–75)	9–15	15	¼–½	I
Potatoes, Irish	Nov–Feb	15	12–24	85–110	5–10	36–42	3–4 (seed pieces)	II
Potatoes, sweet	Feb–Jun	30	10–12	85–130	10–12	36	—	I
Pumpkin	Mid July	30	2–4	80–100 (70–90)	36–60	60	1½ –2	III
Radish	Sept–Mar	4	120	20–30	1	6	¼	III
Spinach	Sept–Mar	4	20–60	45–60	2–6	12	½	II
Squash, Summer	Jan–Apr & Aug–Sept	15	5–10	40–50	12–24	36	1–1½	III
Squash, Winter	Jan–Apr & Aug–Sept	30	2–4	85–120	36–60	60	1½ –2	III
Strawberry	Sept 25– Oct 25	9–12	8–10	(30–60)	12–16	12	— — —	I
Swiss Chard	Sept–May	8–12	10–20	45–60	6–12	18	¼–½	I
Tomatoes (supported)	Jan–Feb & Aug–Sept	2	4–7	90–110 (70–90)	18–32	48	¼– ½	I
Turnips	Sept–Feb	15	20–60	40–60	2–6	12	¼– ½	III
Watermelon	Jan–Mar	40	3–5	80–100 (60–90)	24–48	60	1½ –2	III

1 Use transplants (if appropriate) or buy the amount of seed needed to grow this many plants per 10 feet of row. Most seed packets state the number of seeds the packet contains. **2** Days from seeding to harvest: values in parentheses are days from transplants to first harvest. **3** Minimum distance between rows (when planting in rows). Row spacing can be reduced or ignored as long as plants are spaced correctly. **4** Transplant ability (the ability of a seedling to be successfully transplanted): I = easily survives transplanting; II = survives transplanting with care; III = only plant seeds or containerized transplants with developed root systems.

