

Gardening In Small Spaces: *Plant selection and crop scheduling*

Mulches And Other Tools: *How to spend more time gardening ... and less time weeding*

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Plant Selection in Small Spaces

- Planning is the most important step
 - What vegetables are expensive to purchase
 - What vegetables does your family enjoy
- Make a list
 - Determine if the vegetable can be grown
- Eliminate vegetables that take a lot of space
 - Pumpkins, squash, sweet corn
- Eliminate vegetables that are not expensive to purchase
 - Winter onions, winter squash, potatoes

Plant Selection in Small Spaces

- Avoid plants that grow high
 - Exception, use of trellis with cucumber vines or pole beans
 - Tomato, prune or grow determinate varieties
- Plant late maturing vegetables out of arms reach
- Plant early maturing crops on borders

Flowers are more than color

- Plant edible flowers to eat
 - Viola, nasturtium, borage, calendula, Pansy
- Use flowers from herbs to eat
 - Dill, basil, cilantro, chives
- Flowers in the vegetable garden provide food (pollen, nectar) for beneficial natural predators
- As the diversity of plants increase in the garden so do the number of species of beneficial natural enemies- natural pest control



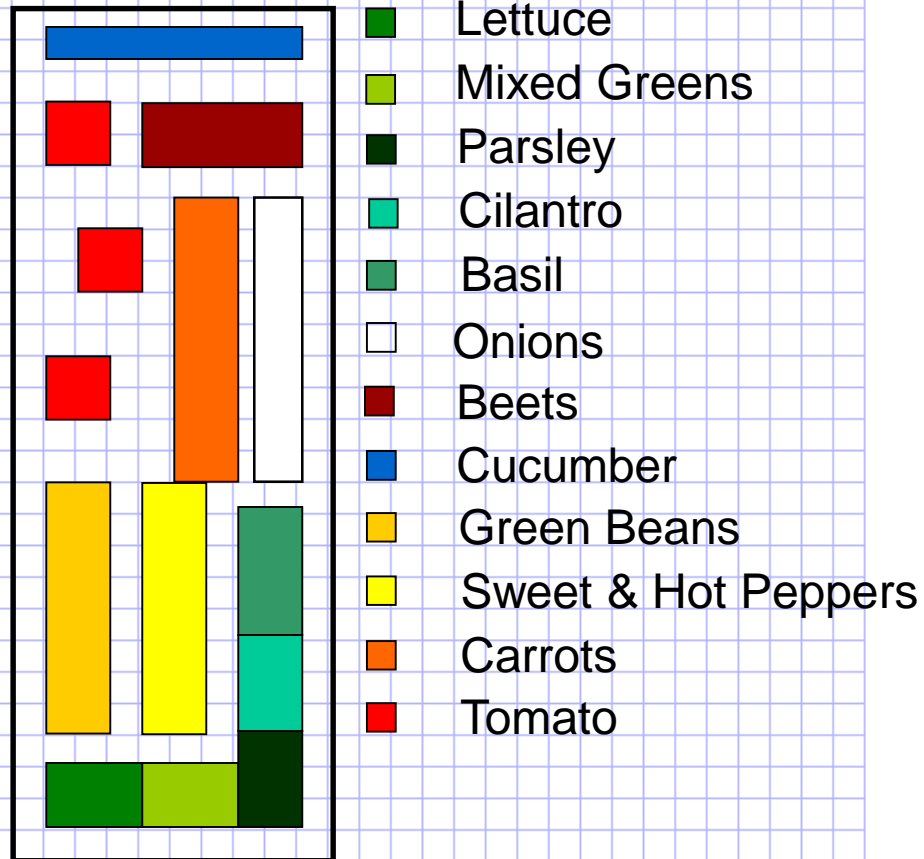
Crop Scheduling

Planting Time			
Vegetable	Early Season	Mid Season	Late Season
Basil		June 1 (plants)	
Bean Green		June 1 (seed)	
Beet	May 1 (seed)		
Carrot	May 1 (seed)		
Chard	May 1 (seed)		
Cilantro	May 1 (seed)		
Cucumber		June 1 (seed)	
Lettuce	May 1 (seed)		

Crop Scheduling

Planting Time			
Vegetable	Early Season	Mid Season	Late Season
Onion	May 1 (seed)		
Pea	May 1 (seed)		
Pepper		June 1 (plants)	
Radish	May 1 (seed)		
Spinach			
Tomato		June 1 (plants)	

Government Center Garden Layout



Scale

1 square represents 6 x 6 inches

Mulches

- When to apply mulches
 - Immediately after planting
- What type of mulch to use (organic)
 - Grass clippings
 - Marsh hay
 - Wheat/Oat straw
- Mulches to avoid
 - Un-composted manure
 - Hay or straw that contains weeds

Examples of Mulches



What do mulches do?

- Reduce weed seed germination
- Reduce soil erosion
- Rainfall interception (keeps vegetables clean)
- Reduces water evaporation from soil
- Keeps soil cooler temperature
- Increases organic matter content of soil when incorporated
- Allows access to garden during wet weather



Things to Consider About Mulches

- Clay soils
 - Avoid organic mulches-may keep soil too moist
 - Use inorganic mulches- black plastic
- Rodent Problems
 - Organic mulches may increase rodent problem
- Pest problems
 - Organic mulches sometimes increase pest problems-slugs, earwigs etc.









