



THREE-MONTH SOCIAL PLANTING GUIDE

Check out the guidelines below for what to plant in our area for March, April and May.

MARCH

If you are hoping for Halloween pumpkins, plant seeds in March. This is also when most folks can plant seedlings or transplants in their garden. If you want to start seeds indoors, consider cucumber, Brussels sprouts or squash. If you are planting outdoors, March is good for planting tomatoes, celery, spinach, lettuces, peppers, cauliflower, carrots, beets, cucumbers, corn and watermelon.

APRIL

April is your last chance to start Halloween pumpkins, so if you didn't start them in March, be sure to do so in early April. Other fruits and

vegetables you can plant in April include squash, watermelon, eggplant, cucumber, cantaloupe, beans, carrots and peppers. If possible, plant toward the beginning of the month.



MAY

As we move toward the end of spring and into the beginning of summer, you will begin harvesting some of the foods you planted earlier in the year. You can also start another round of planting or do your first planting for cantaloupe, corn, eggplant, cucumber, beans, beets, squash, peppers and chard.

Garden Inspiration

"A weed is a plant that has mastered every survival skill except for learning how to grow in rows."

—Doug Larson

"The philosopher who said that 'Work well done never needs doing over' **never weeded a garden.**"

—Ray D. Everson

"In nature, nothing is perfect, and everything is perfect."

—Alice Walker

GREEN-THUMB GARDENING RULE

- Keep pathways, common areas and plots weed free
- Harvest all produce; leave nothing on the vine
- Remove all vines and dead plants from past season
- Remove trees from your garden plot
- Be courteous and respectful to your neighbors
- Share water if necessary; do not overwater
- Report water issues/leaks to staff or Security
- Keep your plot tidy; eliminate debris and clutter
- Fold up your umbrella when not in use



A Note From Tom McCray

Winter rains may have hampered our activities over the past month, but the heavy dose of mother nature's water will be beneficial in the months to come. The rains have been helpful in growing the plants that we want, but it has been equally helpful in growing the ones we don't want.

In recent tours of the centers we have seen a number of plots overrun with weeds. We realize that the recent weather has kept people inside, but we ask that all gardeners use the breaks in the rain to tend to their plots. As a reminder, it is the responsibility of all plot holders to keep their gardens in a presentable state for the enjoyment of everyone. A weed-filled plot looks bad and can spread seeds to the surrounding areas.

During this time of year, we require gardeners to shut off any automatic watering devices. Mother nature has provided plenty of water; if there is a lull in the rain, simply head down to the garden and hand-water your plants.

REMINDERS

Kindly return any borrowed items such as, tools, wagons and wheelbarrows to the location where you found them. Garden Center tools left in individual locked plots may result in lock removal to return tools housed within.



Proper trash disposal remains an ongoing concern at the Garden Centers. We urge all gardeners to do your part to correctly dispose of items in the appropriate bins. If the trash bin contains incorrect items, the trash will not be picked up, adversely affecting you and your fellow gardeners. Your cooperation in maintaining a clean and organized center is greatly appreciated.



GARDEN MAINTENANCE HACKS

Strengthen seedlings with Chamomile tea

Similar to cinnamon, chamomile is known for its anti-fungal properties. An effective alternative to cinnamon, steeping a little chamomile tea and using it on your seedlings helps prevent damping off disease, which often affects new seedlings. Simply spray a little of the tea on your seedlings after transplanting them into the garden.