



- Cole crops (cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower) are prime targets for caterpillars. If you only have a few plants, hand-picking works; otherwise, use BT (*Bacillus thuringiensis*)—a food-safe, organic solution.
- There's still time to plant cool-season herbs and veggies from transplants. Try arugula, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, chard, collards, endive, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, mustard, peas or spinach.
- Start beets, carrots, parsnips, radish and turnips from seed this month.
- Fava beans producing but not setting fruit? Cut off the top couple of inches of each growing tip to redirect energy into bean production.
- If you missed planting rhubarb, artichoke, horseradish or asparagus last month, do it now! Bare-root plants may still be available. Tip: Keep horseradish in a container—it can be invasive.
- Feed cool-season vegetables regularly.
- Stay ahead of weeds before they take over.

Now is the time to kick-start garden prep and ensure a thriving garden:

- Shop for summer seeds now, but most won't be planted until next month.
- Get a head start on warm-season veggies by planting a few seeds on a warm windowsill.

Read more in-depth February gardening tips from Rogers Gardens [here](#).

### Support Gardeners Impacted by Wildfire

To support gardeners impacted by the recent Los Angeles County fires, [click here](#) to learn more on how to contribute to the Altadena Seed Library.

### RETURN BORROWED TOOLS

Returning tools to their proper place helps keep them in good condition and ensures they are available for all gardeners. If you borrow tools from the shared garden center barns, return them to the barn after use. If borrowed tools are left inside a locked plot, your lock may be removed to retrieve and return them.



## Garden Center Volunteer Projects

Here are some key projects our dedicated garden center volunteers have tackled:

### Garden Center 1

- Built seven pathways for safer access to lower tree plots.
- Trimmed trees, pulled weeds and emptied 461 wheelbarrows of green waste.
- Collected free pavers for community use.
- Produced 67 buckets of Bokashi compost to enrich the soil.
- Sponsored and planted 22 flowering trees along Moulton for beautification.
- Delivered fresh produce weekly to 20 residents facing food insecurity.
- Repurposed plant pots into succulent planters for the Farmers Market.
- Hosted spring and fall cleanup days for volunteer-led maintenance.
- Partnered with Laguna Hills High School Golf Team for weed-blocking and mulching efforts.
- Built a greenhouse for seed propagation.
- Began terracing a farm area to grow food for those in need.

### Garden Center 2

- Assisted with irrigation repairs, cleanup and maintenance.
- Advanced planning for the pollinator garden—designs finalized, materials source and volunteers meeting regularly to bring it to life.

Many hearty thanks to all volunteers for your hard work and dedication!

## KEEP IT CLEAN: Proper Trash Disposal

Please dispose of trash and green waste properly in the shared garden center spaces.

### Do not:

- Leave debris in large pieces, wasting bin space.
- Leave carts or full wheelbarrows instead of emptying them. Volunteers reported emptying 461 wheelbarrows left behind by gardeners.
- Dump debris on the ground for others to clean.

Bins are emptied twice a week. If full, use additional containers in the parking lot.



## Gardening Hacks and Quick Links Say Goodbye to Houseplant Gnats

The most effective way to eliminate gnats in houseplants is by using a diluted hydrogen peroxide solution:

**Step 1:** Mix 1 part hydrogen peroxide with 4 parts water.

**Step 2:** Pour the solution directly onto the soil to kill gnat larvae without harming your plant. Use yellow sticky traps to catch adult gnats.

### Quick Links

- [Alternative ways to treat pests in a vegetable garden](#)
- [Gardening habits to break](#)
- [Starting seeds for beginners](#)
- [Beginner-friendly vegetable garden for self-sufficiency](#)