



## “From the Potting Shed”

### Riverview Garden Club – Helpful Hints

### February 2023

While our gardens are still taking their winter naps, there are many garden chores to get started indoors during February. This month you can start seeds and begin planning your vegetable garden as well as perennial and annual flower beds and borders.

#### *Things to do this month...*

##### **Indoors**

- Give your garden tools a good cleaning and sharpening.
- Get your seed orders in if you haven't already done so.
- Collect all of your seed starting equipment together so you'll be ready to go. You will need lights, heat mats, sterile medium, and your preferred pot type.
- Get organized—take the time to organize your seeds and put them in order from the seeds you'll start first all the way down to those which should be direct sowed.
- Prevent “damping off” (a fungal disease that kills seedlings) by starting with clean containers and sterile soilless mix each year. Wash and sterilize flats, cell packs or pots with a 1:10 solution of bleach/water, and stock up on fresh seed-starting medium.
- Start your first seeds inside for broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, eggplant, head lettuce, onions and parsley.
- Most perennial flowers should be started inside by the end of the month as well. You can also start flowers and herbs that have a long germination period, like rosemary, snapdragons and begonias indoors.

##### **Outdoors**

- While the air is still crisp and cool, your trees and shrubs should still be dormant, this is the perfect time for pruning. Use the opportunity to shape-up any fruit trees, grapevines, or shrubs in your landscape.
- Prune grape vines to no more than four fruiting canes with 7 to 10 buds each.
- Be on the lookout for dead, damaged, diseased wood in other trees and shrubs and prune it out. Remove suckers and water sprouts, too.

##### **Plan your vegetable garden**

- Use these two planting charts to help you start vegetable seeds indoors
- Plan to direct sow some seeds later in the spring according the chart below

# When to Plant- Zone 6 Vegetable Garden

Spring/Summer						
Vegetable	Sow	Sow Indoor	Transplant	Direct Sow		Harvest
	Indoor	Date	Date			
Arugula	N	N	N	Anytime March - Sept		Monthly until done
Celery	Y	January-15	April-15	N		June 20 - 30
Onions (Bulb)	Y	January-15	March-15	March-01		July-15
Spinach	Optional	February-15	March-01	March-01		April 1 - 10
Cabbage	Optional	February-15	March-15	March-15		May-15
Swiss Chard	Optional	February-15	March-15	March-15		May 15 (Full Size)
Lettuce	Optional	February-25	March-25	March-15		May-15
Sweet Potatoes	Y (Slips)	March-01	May-15			September - October
Mesclun Mix	N	N	N	March-05		April 20 - May 3
Snap/Snow Peas	N	N	N	March-10		May 25 - June 8
Turnips	N	N	N	March-15		May-15
Eggplant	Y	March-15	May-15	May-01		July-15
Beets	N	N	N	March-15		June 23 - 30
Carrots	N	N	N	March-15		June 23 - 30
Radish	N	N	N	March-15		April-20
Green Peppers	Y	March-15	May-15	May-01		Green - July 25 / Red - Aug 15
Potatoes	N	N	N	March-20		Varies by type - Typically July - Aug
Tomatoes	Y	April 1 - 15	May 10 - June 1	May-01		July 20 - September
Okra	Optional	April-15	May-15	May-15		July-15
Summer Squash	Optional	April-20	May-10	May-01		June 20 - September
Pumpkins	Optional	May-01	May-20	May-15		September 1 - 30
Cucumbers	N	N	N	May-01		July 1 - 30
Melon/Watermelon	Optional	May-01	May-15	May-15		August-05
Winter Squash	Optional	May-01	May-15	May-05		August-05
Green Bean	N	N	N	May-10		June 30 - July 15
Corn (Sweet)	N	N	N	May-15		July 30 - August 10
Corn (Dry/Field)	N	N	N	June-01		September 15 - 30

The Seasonal  Homestead

Chart 1 of 2

# When to Plant- Zone 6 Vegetable Garden

Late Summer/Fall						
Vegetable	Sow	Sow Indoor	Transplant	Direct Sow		Harvest
	Indoor	Date	Date			
Arugula	N	N	N	Anytime March - September		Monthly until done
Celery	Y	May-15	August-01	N		October-25
Brussel Sprouts	Y	June-01	July-01	June-20		October 20 - November 10
Cabbage	Y	July-01	August-02	July 20 - August 10		October 2 - 20
Cauliflower	Y	July-01	August-02	August-01		October-10
Broccoli	Y	July-01	August-02	July 20 - August 10		October 2 - 20
Chinese Cabbage	Optional	July-20	August-20	August-01		October 10 - 20
Lettuce	Optional	July-25	August-25	August-15		October-15
Kale	Optional	August-01	August-30	August-15		November-01
Carrots	N	N	N	August-01		October-20
Radish (Large)	N	N	N	August-15		October-15
Winter Maturing Carrots	N	N	N	August-20		November 15 - January
Beets	N	N	N	August-20		October 20 - 30
Spinach	Optional	August-25	September-25	September-15		October-25
Turnip	N	N	N	September-01		October-25
Garlic	N	N	N	November-01		July

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Chart 2 of 2

*This month give your special Valentine a plant or a gift certificate for garden supplies!*

Happy Indoor Gardening!