



## Black Creek Garden Resource Network 2017

### Garden Planning Checklist:

1. Draw a quick map of your garden area. Mark shade and light areas, structures and plants (trees, buildings), water source, etc.
2. What type of light do you have?
3. What direction is your light coming from?
4. What type of water source do you have? How can / will you access water?
5. What type of soil?
6. Where can I source compost and other amendments in my neighbourhood? List sources. What is your budget?
7. Any garden goals? Education, substitute vegetables that are expensive to purchase, to garden with my family, etc.
8. What vegetables do I like to eat? Which ones are suitable for my site?
9. Check planting calendar and source seeds and seedlings.
10. Prep soil and get all supplies needed by early May.

## Choosing Plants

<u>Drought &amp; Heat Tolerant</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amaranth</li> <li>• Tomatoes</li> <li>• Eggplants</li> <li>• Beans</li> <li>• Mustard Greens</li> <li>• Chards</li> <li>• Corn</li> <li>• Cucumbers</li> <li>• Garlic</li> <li>• Leeks</li> <li>• Melons</li> <li>• Peppers</li> <li>• Onions</li> <li>• Okra</li> <li>• Pumpkins</li> <li>• Rhubarb</li> <li>• Squash</li> <li>• Spinach</li> <li>• Sunflower</li> <li>• Sweet Potatoes</li> <li>• Herbs</li> </ul>	<u>Thirsty &amp; prefers cooler temps</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lettuce</li> <li>• Peas</li> <li>• Carrots</li> <li>• Beets</li> <li>• Celery</li> <li>• Cauliflower</li> <li>• Cabbage</li> <li>• Broccoli</li> <li>• Asparagus</li> </ul>	<u>Best to seed</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beans (easy)</li> <li>• Peas (easy)</li> <li>• Greens - ie: lettuce (easy)</li> <li>• Mustards (easy)</li> <li>• Carrots (roots don't like to be disturbed)</li> <li>• Beets (same as carrots)</li> <li>• Squash and Melons (easy)</li> <li>• Okra</li> </ul>	
	<u>Sun Lovers</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tomatoes</li> <li>• Peppers</li> <li>• Okra</li> <li>• Squash</li> <li>• Zucchini</li> <li>• Cucumbers</li> <li>• Herbs such as basil, oregano and thyme</li> </ul>	<u>Shade Plants</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lettuce</li> <li>• Aragula</li> <li>• Spinach</li> <li>• Peas</li> <li>• Parsley</li> <li>• Bok choy</li> <li>• Parsnip</li> <li>• Radishes</li> <li>• Garlic</li> </ul>	<u>Best to transplant</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tomatoes</li> <li>• Peppers</li> <li>• eggplants</li> <li>• squash</li> <li>• melons</li> <li>• Herbs</li> <li>• Flowers</li> </ul>

### Resources:

#### SOIL

Soil Testing Methods

<http://youngagrarians.org/soil-testing-new-farmers/>

Toronto Public Health soil testing

[http://www1.toronto.ca/City%20of%20Toronto/Toronto%20Public%20Health/Healthy%20Public%20Policy/Environmental%20Pollutants/Files/PDF/guide\\_for\\_soil\\_testing\\_2013.pdf](http://www1.toronto.ca/City%20of%20Toronto/Toronto%20Public%20Health/Healthy%20Public%20Policy/Environmental%20Pollutants/Files/PDF/guide_for_soil_testing_2013.pdf)

*Worms Eat My Garbage!* - by Mary Appelhof (one of my favourite basic worm composting guidebooks)

## **LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Toronto Urban Growers (TUG)

<http://torontourbangrowers.org/getting-started>

Canadian Organic Growers (they have a great online and mail-based library system that is accessible to members)

<https://www.cog.ca/>

Ecological Farmers of Ontario

<https://efao.ca/>

## **LEARNING & PLANTING CALENDARS**

*How to Grow More Vegetables: Than You Ever Thought Possible on Less Land Than You Can Imagine*

By John Jeavons (a great starter garden planning book)

*The New Organic Grower* - by Eliot Coleman

*Carrots Love Tomatoes* - by Louise Riotte

West Coast Seed Planting Guide

[https://1rxbf2hflyo2jt6jd3f6sjr-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Charts\\_Veg\\_SOntMon.pdf](https://1rxbf2hflyo2jt6jd3f6sjr-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Charts_Veg_SOntMon.pdf)

Farmers' Almanac Planting Guide

<http://www.almanac.com/gardening/planting-dates/ON/Toronto>