

What is a Community Garden?

Community gardens are collaborative projects on shared open spaces where participants share in the maintenance and products of the garden, including healthful and affordable fresh fruits and vegetables.

Gardens may offer physical and mental health benefits by providing opportunities to

- Eat healthy fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Engage in physical activity, skill building, and creating green space.
- Beautify vacant lots.
- Revitalize communities in industrial areas.
- Revive and beautify public parks.
- Create green rooftops.
- Decrease violence in some neighborhoods, and improve social well-being through strengthening social connections.

Best Crops to grow in August

August is an ideal time to plant seeds for a second gardening season that can be as productive as your major early spring plantings. Late summer is the time to plant these vegetables and herbs.

Beans:

Start planting both bush and pole beans now that the soil and air are warmed up. Try a continual 7-10 day sowing of different varieties. This will give you continual bean crops and not one large harvest with wasted crop. Early August is the last practical sowing date. Suggested variety:

[Contender](#), [Kentucky Wonder](#), [Topcrop](#)

Cucumbers

Fast growing vine or bush cucumber plants can produce an abundance of cucumber fruits. Be careful to pick a variety for the space you have in your garden. Vine cucumbers can be the best tasting but need far more space than bush varieties.

Suggest variety: [Spacemaster 80](#).

[Muncher](#), [Marketmore 76](#)

Flower Bulbs

August is a great time to plant those fall flower bulbs. There are many varieties that can be planted this fall and start blooming early spring. [Flower Bulbs](#)

Kale

Planting kale mid-July through mid-August will yield an excellent harvest in the fall and winter. Suggested variety: [Dwarf Blue](#)

Lettuce

Sow lettuce in August for a fall crop. Try growing early harvest varieties that will produce a harvest before cold weather rolls in. Suggested Varieties: [Buttercrunch](#), [Salad Bowl](#)

Peas

Green peas and sugar peas are good to plant in August, and will produce a moderate fall harvest. Suggested variety: [Sugar Ann](#)

Radish

A quick and easy vegetable to grow. Plant now and you can have them ready in 30 days. Suggested variety: [Cherry Belle](#)

Spinach

Spinach is more of a cool weather vegetable and is great to grow in August. Suggested variety: [Bloomsdale](#), [Samish](#)