

## **Resilient Food Gardens: Growing with Wildlife**

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### **Location, location, location and layout**

Full sun, consistent water – high needs plants

Veggies need full sun and plenty of

Close to main pathway or kitchen door

Watering should be easy

Make paths wide and beds narrow enough to easily reach all of your plants

### **Grow with Wildlife in Mind**

Grow plants that are not favored by rabbits or deer.

Plant with wildlife in mind, against solid wall or fence.

Learn about the habits, lifecycle and habitats of pest species

Plan your attack. Disrupt, Disrupt, Disrupt

### **Grow Organically to Protect our Watershed**

Build healthy soil

Work with nature

Right plant, right place

Encourage biodiversity

Use the least toxic approach

Conserve resources, water wisely

Learn as you grow

### **Raised gardens**

Raised beds – definition and benefits

Straw bale beds – raising soil on a budget

Burlap sack and bags of potting soil

### **Containers**

Herbs, vegetables, fruit trees and berries can all be grown in containers – you just may need a really big container! Look for bush, compact, determinate or patio varieties.

Containers should be at least 3 or 4 gallon capacity and 12 inches deep. Most of my large containers are 15 – 30 gallon size. Large containers allow more space for roots and also hold more moisture so watering is easier. Plants in containers can't mine for mineral nutrients so fertilizing is key.

If you are growing in containers, use a liquid fertilizer rather than dry, granular – liquid fertilizer is immediately available to plants.

### **Basics of Vertical Gardening**

- Right trellis for right plant – think snakes and rock climbers
- Construct trellis when seeds or transplants go in the ground
- Taller than you think – build your trellis 1'-2' taller than plant's ultimate height
- Use biodegradable string which can be composted – jute twine, cotton clothes line, sisal string
- Build your trellis as though it will be a permanent feature. Anticipate the weight and stress of plants, fruit, rain and wind.

- Be creative – combinations of bamboo, wire fencing, string, an old ladder or crib sides make attractive and function vertical growing places
- Train and prune plants so that there is adequate spacing and good air circulation

### **Edible Perennials**

Earliest harvest. Year-round harvest  
 Lower maintenance, Large, “no work” yields  
 Multi-functional element in the landscape  
 Require fewer inputs of water, compost and fertilizer  
 You can grow varieties that are not available locally  
 Increases diversity of plantings and nutrition  
 Perennials will grow in a wide range of sun and soil conditions

### **Varieties for Small Spaces**

Plant compact or climbing varieties to get the most from a small space.  
 Varieties that ripen over a longer period of time.  
 Pole beans or peas will climb on a tepee or simple, sturdy trellis  
 Cucumbers, winter squash, pumpkins and climbing summer squash will produce tons of food growing up a trellis.

### **Books**

*Maritime Northwest Garden Guide, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.* by Lisa Taylor, 2014.  
*Your Farm in the City*, by Lisa Taylor, 2011.  
*Living with Wildlife in the Pacific Northwest*, Russell Link, 2004  
*Growing Vegetables West of the Cascades* by Steve Solomon, 2007.  
*Winter Gardening in the Maritime Northwest* by Binda Colebrook, 2013.  
*Cool Season Gardener* by Bill Thorness, 2013.

### **Seed Houses**

**Adaptive Seeds** [adaptiveseeds.com](http://adaptiveseeds.com)  
**Deep Harvest Seeds** [deepharvestfarm.com](http://deepharvestfarm.com)  
**Fedco Seeds** [fedcoseeds.com](http://fedcoseeds.com)  
**Johnny’s Selected Seeds** [johnnyseeds.com](http://johnnyseeds.com)  
**Kitazawa Seed Co.** [kitazawaseed.com](http://kitazawaseed.com)  
**Peace Seedlings** <http://peaceseedlingsseeds.blogspot.com>  
**Seed Savers Exchange** [seedsavers.org](http://seedsavers.org)  
**Territorial Seed Company** [territoriaalseed.com](http://territoriaalseed.com)  
**Uprising Seeds** [uprisingorganics.com](http://uprisingorganics.com)

### **Supplies**

A. M. Leonard, Horticulture Tool Supply Co., Piqua, OH, [www.amleo.com](http://www.amleo.com)  
 Grower’s Supply Co., Iowa & Connecticut (800) 457-8887, [www.growerssupply.com](http://www.growerssupply.com)  
 Charlie’s Greenhouse and Garden, Mt Vernon, WA, (800) 322-4707, [www.charleysgh.com](http://www.charleysgh.com)  
 Lee Valley Tools, (800) 871-8158, [www.leevalley.com](http://www.leevalley.com)  
 OBC Northwest Inc., Greenhouse and Garden Supplies, Canby OR, [www.obcnw.com](http://www.obcnw.com)  
 Peaceful Valley Farm Supply, Grass Valley, CA, [www.GrowOrganic.com](http://www.GrowOrganic.com)