



# Big Green Colorado

## 2019 Colorado Planting and Task Overview Calendar

Knowing what to expect in your Learning Garden throughout the year can help your Garden Team get an early jump on planning for Planting and Harvesting Days, while also aiding you in finding the best times for teaching opportunities. Feel free to use this calendar as a working document to record planting days, harvest days, weather information and how teachers are using the Learning Garden.

The Planting and Task Overview Calendar is meant to provide your Garden Team, and your wider network of Learning Garden participants, with a generalized plan of action for planting, harvesting, and teaching opportunities. You will find various tasks, special events, and growing information throughout. The hope is that this calendar will aid you in planning and aligning the growing season and specific tasks, and opportunities associated with it, with your academic year.

You will find links to growing guides, videos, tracking sheets, and general gardening information throughout this calendar.

### Calendar Color Key

|  |                                                  |
|--|--------------------------------------------------|
|  | Planting and Plants in Your Garden               |
|  | Overwintering                                    |
|  | Planning and Important Events to think about     |
|  | Watering and tasks centered around watering      |
|  | Soil and Amending                                |
|  | Harvest times and tasks/events around Harvesting |

# JANUARY

| What's Happening in Your Garden                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Specific Garden Tasks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If you are overwintering crops this year, your Garden is currently growing (albeit slowly).</li><li>• Your crops right now will most likely include <b>Spinach, Garlic, Kale</b> and possibly even <b>Onions</b></li><li>• If you are not overwintering crops, your soil should be /mulched (compost, leaves, or straw) and simply sitting for the winter</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Your Garden is selfd sufficient at this point and will require little to no attention during these months</li><li>• Watering occasionally on the warmest days can help spur growth and ensure Spring success</li><li>• It is always helpful to take a walk around the garden once in a while to make sure all is well</li></ul> |

### Important Planning Tips

\*Big Green Garden Educators often hold a **SPRING PLANNING AND PLANTING workshop** during the month of February or March, so keep a look out for your invitation!

\*These are great months to start planning for resources you might need (Compost, Tools, Watering Kits, hoses, etc.). The Growing season is right around the corner!

### Helpful Links

[REGIONAL MINI SITE](#), [GARDEN SKILLS](#), [CLASSROOM RESOURCES](#), [VIDEO LIBRARY](#), [ANNUAL COLORADO GROWING PLAN](#)

### Notes

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| January 2019 |     |                                                               |     |     |        |            |
|--------------|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|--------|------------|
| ◀ December   |     |                                                               |     |     |        | February ▶ |
| Sun          | Mon | Tue                                                           | Wed | Thu | Fri    | Sat        |
|              |     | 1<br>Garden is overwintering – possibly Garlic, Spinach, Kale | 2   | 3   | 4      | 5          |
| 6            | 7   | 8                                                             | 9   | 10  | 11     | 12         |
| 13           | 14  | 15                                                            | 16  | 17  | 18     | 19         |
| 20           | 21  | 22                                                            | 23  | 24  | 25     | 26         |
| 27           | 28  | 29                                                            | 30  | 31  | Notes: |            |

# FEBRUARY

| What's Happening in Your Garden                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Specific Garden Tasks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If you are overwintering crops this year, your Garden is currently growing (albeit slowly).</li><li>• Your crops right now will most likely include <b>Spinach, Garlic, Kale</b> and possibly even <b>Onions</b></li><li>• If you are not overwintering crops, your soil should be covered/mulched (compost, straw, leaves) and simply sitting for the winter</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Your Garden is self sufficient at this point and will require little to no attention during these months</li><li>• ‡</li><li>○</li><li>• It is always helpful to take a walk around the garden once in a while to make sure all is well</li></ul> |

## Important Planning Tips

\*These are great months to start planning for resources you might need (Compost, Tools, Watering Kits, hoses, etc.). The Growing season is right around the corner!

\*Your Garden Educator may be reconnecting with your team to assist in planning and preparing for Spring Planting!

## Helpful Links

[REGIONAL MINI SITE](#), [GARDEN SKILLS](#), [CLASSROOM RESOURCES](#), [VIDEO LIBRARY](#), [ANNUAL COLORADO GROWING PLAN](#)

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| March 2019 |        |     |     |     |                                                                                                                |                                                                                                         |
|------------|--------|-----|-----|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ◀ February |        |     |     |     |                                                                                                                | April ▶                                                                                                 |
| Sun        | Mon    | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri                                                                                                            | Sat                                                                                                     |
|            |        |     |     |     | 1<br>Meet with your Garden Team to organize Planting Days (usually occurs within the first two weeks of April) | 2<br>Start outreach efforts for watering sign-ups (you can use THIS calendar as your watering calendar) |
| 3          | 4      | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8                                                                                                              | 9                                                                                                       |
| 10         | 11     | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15<br>If weather allows, Peas can be planted as early as this date                                             | 16                                                                                                      |
| 17         | 18     | 19  | 20  | 21  | 22                                                                                                             | 23                                                                                                      |
| 24         | 25     | 26  | 27  | 28  | 29                                                                                                             | 30                                                                                                      |
| 31         | Notes: |     |     |     |                                                                                                                |                                                                                                         |











# June

| What's Happening in Your Garden                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Specific Garden Tasks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Summer Themes: Salsa Garden, 3 Sisters Garden, Plant Parts Garden, Root Veggie Garden, Garlic, Perennial Herbs, and strawberries</b> are growing.</li><li>• Should be no risk of frost until Fall</li><li>• Adapt watering to increasing temperatures. Effective watering will keep your plants happy and stress free.</li><li>• Keep an eye out for pests: Flea Beetles, Aphids, Caterpillars, and others can indicate stressed plants.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Water</li><li>• Check for bugs - Leaves may be eaten, or insect eggs may be found on or under leaves.</li><li>• Weed: Weed every bed two times a month through June while your summer crops get established. This will help them out compete other weeds before they become a problem.</li><li>• If using Drip Irrigation, check every couple of days for leaks/breakages</li></ul> |

## Important Planning Tips

Your entire management strategy may have to change for the summer months. **Be sure to recruit and train a summer watering team before school ends! Your Garden Educator is always happy to do a parent watering orientation in the garden!**

## Helpful Links

[REGIONAL MINI SITE](#), [GARDEN SKILLS](#), [CLASSROOM RESOURCES](#), [VIDEO LIBRARY](#), [ANNUAL COLORADO GROWING PLAN](#)

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| June 2019 |                                             |     |     |     |     |        |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| ◀ May     |                                             |     |     |     |     | July ▶ |
| Sun       | Mon                                         | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat    |
|           |                                             |     |     |     |     | 1      |
| 2         | 3<br>You can still<br>Plant Summer<br>Crops | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8      |
| 9         | 10                                          | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15     |
| 16        | 17                                          | 18  | 19  | 20  | 21  | 22     |
| 23        | 24                                          | 25  | 26  | 27  | 28  | 29     |
| 30        | Notes:                                      |     |     |     |     |        |

# July

| What's Happening in Your Garden                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Specific Garden Tasks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Summer Themes: Salsa Garden, 3 Sisters Garden, Plant Parts Garden, Root Veggie Garden, garlic, perennial herbs, and strawberries</b> are growing.</li><li>• Adapt watering to increasing temperatures. Effective watering will keep your plants happy and stress free.</li><li>• Keep an eye out for pests: <b>Flea Beetles, Aphids, Caterpillars</b>, and others can indicate stressed plants.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Water: Be sure to directly water the soil. Watering leaves may grow fungus.</li><li>• Check for bugs</li><li>• Continue weeding</li><li>• If using drip irrigation system, have volunteers check for leaks/breakages</li><li>• Garden should start bearing some fruit. Kale leaves may be able to be harvested sparingly</li></ul> |

## Important Planning Tips

You may want to start thinking about the upcoming transition to school/teacher/staff watering

## Helpful Links

[REGIONAL MINI SITE](#), [GARDEN SKILLS](#), [CLASSROOM RESOURCES](#), [VIDEO LIBRARY](#), [ANNUAL COLORADO GROWING PLAN](#)

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| July 2019 |                                                                                       |     |     |        |     |          |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|--------|-----|----------|
| ◀ June    |                                                                                       |     |     |        |     | August ▶ |
| Sun       | Mon                                                                                   | Tue | Wed | Thu    | Fri | Sat      |
|           | 1<br>Garlic may be ready to harvest at this point or within the next couple of weeks. | 2   | 3   | 4      | 5   | 6        |
| 7         | 8                                                                                     | 9   | 10  | 11     | 12  | 13       |
| 14        | 15                                                                                    | 16  | 17  | 18     | 19  | 20       |
| 21        | 22                                                                                    | 23  | 24  | 25     | 26  | 27       |
| 28        | 29                                                                                    | 30  | 31  | Notes: |     |          |

# August

| What's Happening in Your Garden                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Specific Garden Tasks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Summer Themes: Salsa Garden, 3 Sisters Garden, Plant Parts Garden, Root Veggie Garden, carrots, perennial herbs, and strawberries</b> are growing.</li><li>• Classes are starting back up and watering will transition back to the school, so plan early to create a rotating watering schedule.</li><li>• If you haven't grown a Summer Garden, you can plant a <b>45 day salad garden</b> – the same garden as the Spring</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Water</li><li>• Check for bugs</li><li>• Continue weeding</li><li>• Pinch back flowers on basil (see link)</li><li>• Harvest fruit when it's ripe (cherry tomatoes, zucchini, strawberries, peppers)(See Harvest Guides)</li></ul> |

### Important Planning Tips

Check in with your Summer Garden Team to make sure things are going well: Garden is getting watered, food is getting harvested, plants are looking healthy, irrigation is working, etc.

[Transition watering back into a rotating teacher/staff rotating schedule](#)

### Helpful Links

[REGIONAL MINI SITE](#), [GARDEN SKILLS](#), [CLASSROOM RESOURCES](#), [VIDEO LIBRARY](#), [ANNUAL COLORADO GROWING PLAN](#)

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| August 2019 |     |                                                                                                                                                           |     |     |     |             |
|-------------|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| ◀ July      |     |                                                                                                                                                           |     |     |     | September ▶ |
| Sun         | Mon | Tue                                                                                                                                                       | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat         |
|             |     |                                                                                                                                                           |     | 1   | 2   | 3           |
| 4           | 5   | 6                                                                                                                                                         | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10          |
| 11          | 12  | 13                                                                                                                                                        | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17          |
| 18          | 19  | <b>20</b><br>Great time to start planning a Garden Team meeting and Harvest Day meeting                                                                   | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24          |
| 25          | 26  | <b>27</b><br>If you haven't grown a Summer Garden, this is a great time to start planning and planting a 45 day salad garden – same plan as in the Spring | 28  | 29  | 30  | 31          |

# September

| What's Happening in Your Garden                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Specific Garden Tasks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Summer Themes: Salsa Garden, 3 Sisters Garden, Plant Parts Garden, Root Veggie Garden, garlic, perennial herbs, and strawberries</b> are growing.</li><li>• Garden Teams/classrooms are harvesting and watering regularly</li><li>• Plants are growing and fruiting heavily, as we are hitting the peak of harvest season</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Water</li><li>• Check for bugs, take photo and email Garden Educator</li><li>• Continue Weeding occasionally</li><li>• Harvest ripe fruit regularly to ensure the best production and healthier plants</li></ul> |

## Important Planning Tips

Meet with Garden Team to discuss opportunities and strategies around harvesting, including how you would like to use the food (cafeteria, classroom recipes, sending home with students, charity, farmers market, etc.?)

## Helpful Links

[REGIONAL MINI SITE](#), [GARDEN SKILLS](#), [CLASSROOM RESOURCES](#), [VIDEO LIBRARY](#), [COLORADO GROWING PLAN](#),

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| September 2019 |                                                        |                                                                                                                 |                                   |                                                                          |     |           |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----------|
| ◀ August       |                                                        |                                                                                                                 |                                   |                                                                          |     | October ▶ |
| Sun            | Mon                                                    | Tue                                                                                                             | Wed                               | Thu                                                                      | Fri | Sat       |
| 1              | 2<br>REMEMBER TO<br><a href="#">TRACK YOUR HARVEST</a> | 3<br>Plan Garden Team Meeting to review Summer back to school garden agenda, plans for harvest, school watering | 4<br>Harvest throughout the month | 5<br>Open dates for Planting a 45 day Salad garden: same as Spring Plans | 6   | 7         |
| 8              | 9                                                      | 10                                                                                                              | 11                                | 12                                                                       | 13  | 14        |
| 15             | 16                                                     | 17                                                                                                              | 18                                | 19                                                                       | 20  | 21        |
| 22             | 23                                                     | 24                                                                                                              | 25                                | 26                                                                       | 27  | 28        |
| 29             | 30                                                     | Notes:                                                                                                          |                                   |                                                                          |     |           |

# October

| What's Happening in Your Garden                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Specific Garden Tasks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Summer Themes: Salsa Garden, 3 Sisters Garden, Plant Parts Garden, Root Veggie Garden, Perennial Herbs, and strawberries</b> are growing</li><li>• Harvest season is coming to an end but garden should still be highly productive</li><li>• If growing a 45 Day Salad Garden, you should be able to harvest it this month</li><li>• First Frost: Possible bu Oct. 1</li><li>• Tear out summer crops and plant crops to overwinter (winterize your garden)</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Water</li><li>• Check for bugs</li><li>• Harvest and tear out Summer crops to plant Overwintering Crops (<b>spinach, garlic, onions, cilantro</b>)</li><li>• Cut herbs back and bundle them to dry for storage: <b>DO NOT PULL HERB PLANTS OR STRAWBERRIES</b></li></ul> |

## Important Planning Tips

Schedule a day to “Winterize Your Garden.” Big Green will be hosting a workshop in early October to teach Garden Teams how to accomplish this

## Helpful Links

[REGIONAL MINI SITE](#), [GARDEN SKILLS](#), [CLASSROOM RESOURCES](#), [VIDEO LIBRARY](#), [ANNUAL COLORADO GROWING PLAN](#)

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| October 2019 |           |                                                                                                                      |                                                         |           |                                                      |            |
|--------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| ◀ September  |           |                                                                                                                      |                                                         |           |                                                      | November ▶ |
| Sun          | Mon       | Tue                                                                                                                  | Wed                                                     | Thu       | Fri                                                  | Sat        |
|              |           | <b>1</b><br>Garden teams should start planning to schedule a "Winterize Your Garden" day with volunteers or students | <b>2</b><br>Harvesting                                  | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>                                             | <b>5</b>   |
| <b>6</b>     | <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b>                                                                                                             | <b>9</b>                                                | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b>                                            | <b>12</b>  |
| <b>13</b>    | <b>14</b> | <b>15</b>                                                                                                            | <b>16</b><br>Average first frost date (90% probability) | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b><br>Great time to Winterize Learning Garden | <b>19</b>  |
| <b>20</b>    | <b>21</b> | <b>22</b><br>After Harvesting, dig in compost (should be on garden surface acting as mulch through the Summer)       | <b>23</b>                                               | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b>                                            | <b>26</b>  |
| <b>27</b>    | <b>28</b> | <b>29</b>                                                                                                            | <b>30</b>                                               | <b>31</b> | <b>Notes:</b>                                        |            |

# November

## What's Happening in Your Garden

- Overwintering crops (**Spinach, Onions, Peas, Cilantro, Garlic**) may start to sprout, with the onions and garlic taking the longest to come up
- More precipitation and less heat will make for a more relaxed watering regimen

## Specific Garden Tasks

- Water new seeds daily until plants have started to sprout.
- After plants have sprouted to about two inches tall you may only need to water once every three or four days depending on how warm/dry the weather has been

## Important Planning Tips

This is a great time to sit down with your Garden Team to assess how the growing season went, including successes, challenges, and changes for next year.

Contact your **Garden Educators** to set up a meeting for assessing and planning for next season

## Helpful Links

[REGIONAL MINI SITE](#), [GARDEN SKILLS](#), [CLASSROOM RESOURCES](#), [VIDEO LIBRARY](#), [ANNUAL COLORADO GROWING PLAN](#)

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| November 2019 |     |     |     |     |                                                                                                              |            |
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| ◀ October     |     |     |     |     |                                                                                                              | December ▶ |
| Sun           | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri                                                                                                          | Sat        |
|               |     |     |     |     | 1<br>Water accordingly, depending on weather. If weather is dry for more than two days you may need to water | 2          |
| 3             | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8                                                                                                            | 9          |
| 10            | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15                                                                                                           | 16         |
| 17            | 18  | 19  | 20  | 21  | 22                                                                                                           | 23         |
| 24            | 25  | 26  | 27  | 28  | 29                                                                                                           | 30         |

More Calendars from WinCalendar: [2013](#), [2014](#), [Online Calendar](#)

# December

## What's Happening in Your Garden

- Garden is resting. Not much is happening aside from very slow growing Winter crops

## Specific Garden Tasks

- There is nothing you are required to do at this point.

## Important Planning Tips

### Helpful Links

[REGIONAL MINI SITE,](#)

\*Indoor garden based lessons about Soil, Life Cycles, Decomposition

\*Instructivities: Decomposition Viewers, Root Viewing Cups, Soil In a Jar Test

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| ◀ November |     | December 2019 |        |     |     |     | January ▶ |
|------------|-----|---------------|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| Sun        | Mon | Tue           | Wed    | Thu | Fri | Sat |           |
| 1          | 2   | 3             | 4      | 5   | 6   | 7   |           |
| 8          | 9   | 10            | 11     | 12  | 13  | 14  |           |
| 15         | 16  | 17            | 18     | 19  | 20  | 21  |           |
| 22         | 23  | 24            | 25     | 26  | 27  | 28  |           |
| 29         | 30  | 31            | Notes: |     |     |     |           |