

Seed Planting Instructions

St. Peter Lutheran Church, Watertown, MN

www.stpeterlc.org



Preparing the Soil:

1. The soil should be worked up in the fall. The snow, rain, freezing and thawing makes good soil texture for next spring planting. If you don't have your plot worked up, wait until the soil is dry.
2. Take a shovel and dig up a clump of soil. Take your hand, get a handful of soil and squeeze it. If it stays in a mud ball, it is too wet. Stay out for a few days and try again. This is more important than the seeds. You will pay the fiddler all growing season if you get in there too soon.



Corn (Peaches & Cream Bi-Color)

Corn is a warm-weather crop.

When to Plant: May 25th or later

Days to Maturity: 84 days

Corn seed will rot if the ground is too cold, but if the soil is warm, you can plant before May 25th.

Plant 1-1/2" deep, 2 seeds in a hole, 8-10" apart. Try to plant in a square because corn needs to cross pollinate – 4 rows across from each other.

When corn silk has turned medium to dark brown, the corn is ready to pick.



Herbs (Sweet Basil)

Basil is a warm-weather crop.

When to Plant: May 20th or later

Days to Maturity: 70-80 days

Basil is very frost-sensitive, so don't put it in the garden too early.

Starting Indoors:

- You can start basil in an egg carton with good potting soil, then transplant into a 4-1/2" pot.

Planting in Ground (direct sow):

- In the ground, direct plant 1/2" deep and cover lightly. Can also be started in a pot on your deck.

To harvest, cut it 3" above the ground, so it will regrow.

Courtesy: Donna at the Farm, (952) 442-4816, www.atthefarmwaconia.com



Radishes (Red)

Radishes are a cool-weather crop. If you plant them late (July), they will be hot and bitter.

When to Plant: Late April to early May

Days to Maturity: 20-30 days

Plant ½" deep and 1" apart.

During harvest, if you only get the radish top and no bulb, your soil has too much nitrogen.



Irrigation

Ensure all plants get enough moisture. A good rule of thumb is one inch of water per week whether from rainfall or watering. Infrequent, but deep soaking is better than regular, shallow watering. This encourages roots to grow deep into the soil rather than staying close to the surface. Watering in the morning or evening is best to prevent the water from evaporating before the plants can use it.



Sun Flowers (Sunrich Gold)

Sun Flowers are a warm-weather crop. This variety grows to 48-60" tall.

When to Plant: May 20th or later

Days to Maturity: 60-65 days

Plant direct in ground when soil is warm, 1" deep spaced 1 foot apart. You will see a plant in 7-12 days.

Sun flowers need a lot of sunlight (1/2 day or more). When a flower is a half-open bud, you can cut it for a cut flower, and the bud will open in the house.



Tomato (Grape Tomato - Red)

Tomatoes are a warm-weather crop. This variety is a superior-flavor grape tomato with indeterminate vining and keeps producing all summer. Grows to 3-4' tall and needs full sun.

When to Plant (outdoors): May 30th or later

Days to Maturity: 68 days

Start seeds indoors using egg cartons with good, seed-starting soil.

Ensure soil is moist before planting. Put 1 seed per cup, ½" deep and cover lightly. Cover with cling wrap until the plant comes up.

When the plant has 4 leaves, transplant to a 4-1/2" pot, and when the weather is warm, plant in the garden or a large pot.