

# Planning Your 2024 Garden

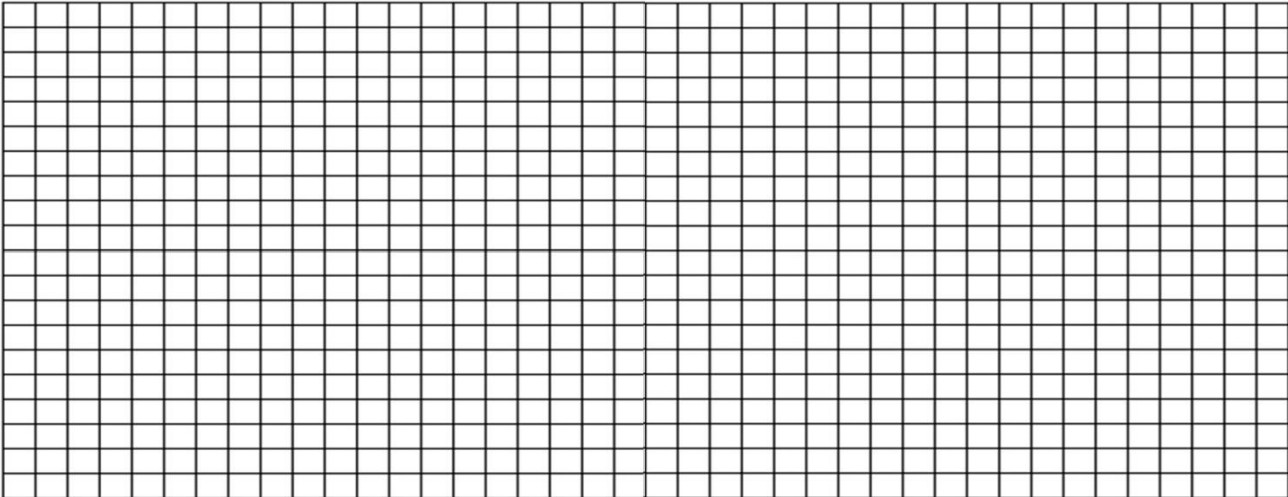
### Garden Site Selection

- Vegetables should receive 6-8 hours of full sun and greens should receive at least 4 hours.
- Pick a spot close to home, work, or community centers
- Check access to water supply (Rain barrels, hose, or watering can)

To learn more about where, when and how to plant, visit and volunteer at our Educational Farm mid-morning on Tuesdays, Thursdays, or Saturdays.  
 1628 Beach St, Flint, MI 48502

- Be prepared to water your plants often. If they start to die, water them less. There's a middle ground.
- Use the grid below to sketch out your garden. Decide how much space you have to garden in and draw it on the grid below. Then mark down existing landmarks, like trees, before deciding where your plants will go.
- Keep the grid and drawing sizes proportional to your actual garden. Plant spacing recommendations can be found at: [www.edibleflint.org/gardenkits](http://www.edibleflint.org/gardenkits)
- Remember to include paths that allow you to access plants
- Advanced gardeners: Consider interplanting and how neighboring plants impact each other in terms of pests, disease, shading, and crop production.

Plan your 2024 garden below!



## 2024 Garden Kit Distribution Day

Saturday May 18, 2024

The Neighborhood Engagement Hub

3216 MLK Avenue  
 Flint, MI 48505

All kits and compost must be picked up on Distribution Day

More instructions will follow about traffic flow and parking closer to the event. If you have questions on or before Distribution Day, please call 810-348-5332.

Visit the Edible Flint Educational Farm

1628 Beach Street, Flint, MI 48503

Volunteers welcome on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays in the morning.



2024 Garden Kits & Garden Planning Guide



www.edibleflint.org  
 @edibleflint  

## 2024 Edible Flint Garden Starters Garden Kits

### Kitchen Garden Kit

\$12 each or 2 for \$20

- 18 transplants
- 4 seed varieties
- For gardens approximately 500 square feet

### Greens Kit *Partial shade is ok for greens*

\$10 each

- 12 transplants
- 5 seed varieties

### Herb Kit – *added flavor!*

\$18 each

- 5 transplants
- 6 seed varieties
- Great for containers!

### Pepper Pack – *add some heat and spice!*

\$10 each

- 10 transplants
- 1 seed variety
- Allow 16" of space per plant

### Pollinator Kit-New! *Flowers for corners!*

\$12 each

- 12 transplants – 3 varieties
- 5 seed varieties
- For beneficial and pollinating insects

### Bagged Compost

- \$8.00 each 30 lb. bag

# COMPOST BASICS



## WHAT IS COMPOST?

Compost is a dark, crumbly, porous, soil-like material. In nature, compost or humus is created as plant materials break down over time. It is rich in organic material but it is not the same as soil. Earthworms enrich soil by mixing organic materials with minerals in the soil. Compost is not the same as mulch. Mulch is used to suppress weeds and maintain moisture in garden beds. Mulch will break down over time and add to organic material in the garden.

## COMPOST WORKS AS A FERTILIZER

Compost adds nutrients from organic material to gardens. Rake compost into the soil around the base of your trees. Nutrients from the compost will feed the roots of the tree.



## APPLY COMPOST TO GARDEN BEDS

Sprinkle compost on to soil of garden and gently turn over the soil to mix in the compost. Compost adds organic material to the soil. You can use an online compost calculator to figure out how much compost you will need. Measure your garden and find out how much compost is needed to add an inch of compost.

## ADD COMPOST TO CONTAINERS

Mix compost with soil and perlite in a container. Perlite is a material that keeps soil from compacting in a container and compost adds nitrogen and other nutrients that plants use to grow and produce fruit. Compost should be about 20-25% of a container.



**SPRING IS COMING!** We are delighted to share planning and future events from Edible Flint to support your 2024 growing season.

### Garden Kits on Sale Now....Plan to pick yours up on May 18th!

The Edible Flint Garden Starters Work Group started preparations for you and your garden in late fall of 2023– reviewing the surveys you returned – and what you wanted more of or perhaps did not want at all. Discussions followed on how to serve all growers...and now this work group offers 4 distinct kits: *Kitchen Garden*: 18 transplants responding to your wishes for 2 or more of each transplant and your 8 different vegetable choices. This kit includes 4 varieties of seeds. The *Greens Kit* has 3 of your most-sought transplants (4 of each!) and 5 varieties of quick growing seeds. The *Pepper Pack* has 2 transplants of each of 5 varieties of pepper including the much-requested Lunch Box Peppers. Mary Sam's Gardens in Burton is growing the transplants of herbs including both Thai and Sweet Basil, Oregano, Thyme, and Sage: 2 transplants of each with a good start in a 4" pot. The herb kit includes 6 sets of seeds including nasturtiums – edible flowers with a peppery bite that many requested. Expect a follow-up question on the 2024 survey! AND a Pollinator Kit is offered for the first time with cosmos, coreopsis and bee balm transplants as well as 5 varieties of seeds.

197 individuals purchased garden kits and compost in 2023: 413 Kitchen Garden Kits, 142 Greens Kits, 97 herb Packs (sold out very early), 120 pepper packs (sold out early) and 459 bags of compost! The Work Group believes you will be gardening in 2024 so substantial orders have been placed with 3 local growers - bulk orders for 19 varieties of seeds! And 450 bags of compost reserved! Flint's Garden Starters' Work Group and Flint area growers look forward to supporting your garden. Order forms are enclosed or on line at [www.edibleflint.org/gardenkits](http://www.edibleflint.org/gardenkits). Due by May 3, 2024.

### Edible Flint 2024 Annual Meeting

We invite you to reflect on Edible Flint's 2023 work and look to the future at our 2024 Annual Meeting which will be held virtually and in person on **March 26th at 5:30 p.m.** in the MSU Building (across the parking lot from the Farmer's Market in downtown Flint.)

### Edible Flint Educational Farm

Volunteers continue to support the operations at the Edible Flint Educational Farm near Beach St and 12<sup>th</sup> in Flint. In 2023, the farm produced over 4,400 pounds of food that was donated to community members and food pantries.. In addition to volunteer opportunities, we will be hosting workshops, "lunch and learns," and youth programming at the Educational Farm throughout the 2024 gardening season. Follow Edible Flint on Facebook or Instagram;

Follow Edible Flint on Facebook or Instagram; sign up for our email newsletter for future opportunities to visit the farm! If you are interested in volunteering at the Edible Flint Farm this year, sign up at [www.edibleflint.org/volunteer](http://www.edibleflint.org/volunteer).

We wish you a safe and abundant gardening season:: Please visit [www.edibleflint.org](http://www.edibleflint.org), email us at [info@edibleflint.org](mailto:info@edibleflint.org) or call 810 244-8547 for more information.

