



Home Gardening: Day 1

# Planning for a Successful Garden

# Planning the Vegetable Garden

- Who will be doing the work?
- What do you and your family like to eat?
  - Successive plantings of certain crops, such as beans, can be harvested over a longer period of time and increase your yield.
  - As you plan, list recommended varieties and planting dates.
- How do you plan to use the produce from your garden?
  - Care should be used in choosing the seeds, making sure the varieties you select are adapted to your area and intended use.
- How much space is available? How much do you need?

Preparing the Soil

## Soil Conditioning – Establishing a Successful Foundation

# Composting 101

## How to Start a Compost Pile

### WHAT IS COMPOST?

Compost is decayed organic matter that is a great plant fertilizer, also known as black gold.



### HOW DOES IT WORK?

Oxygen-powered micro-organisms break down the organic matter by digesting it. Over time, secretions from these soil organisms result in a crumbly, fragrant humus. The only ingredients necessary for successful compost include air, water, green material and brown material.



### WHAT TO ADD TO THE PILE

#### Nitrogen (Fresh Greens)



- Grass
- Vegetable and fruit waste
- Weeds
- Coffee grounds
- Manure from herbivores
- Eggshells

#### Carbon (Dry Browns)



- Dead leaves
- Hay or straw
- Pine needles
- Sawdust
- Shredded paper and cardboard
- Wood ash



#### Don't Add

- Oily or fatty food
- Animal products or by-products
- Manure from carnivores

### KEEP THE PILE MOIST

The pile needs to be kept moist to do its job, so if rain isn't sufficient, be sure to water the pile so that it is moist but not soggy.

### TURN THE PILE

Every couple of weeks or so, aerate the pile by turning it over with a shovel, turning the tumbler or using a compost aerator.

# Composting 101

- [Beaufort County Solid Waste Recycling: Compost 101](#)
- [Horry County Solid Waste Authority](#)



# Raised Beds

[Raised Bed Gardening](#)

[Raised Bed Designs](#)



# Container Gardening

Container Vegetable Gardening

Park Seed Container Vegetable Gardening 101





Clemson News

# Garden Ready: Tips for Spring Vegetable Prep and Planting