



## Planning your Fall and Winter Garden

Living on the North Olympic Peninsula provides a unique opportunity to grow vegetables year-round. Since our winters are normally mild, many crops can be grown and harvested in these cooler months. Begin planning for your winter vegetable garden during the warmer months.

- Select the warmest, wind-free location that you can find in your garden. Often this is a south facing plot. Good soil drainage and accessibility for winter harvest also are important considerations.
- Amend the soil with compost to optimize drainage and restore nutrients that may have been depleted by summer crops.
- Select crops and varieties that are suited for shorter days and colder temperatures. Leafy green vegetables, root crops, and cole crops are well-suited for winter gardening.
- Plant late enough so that crops will not mature too early during the warm summer and fall, but early enough so that they are well-established by the first frost. Most winter crops are planted from mid-July through August in local gardens.

# Plant Clinics

Clallam County Courthouse  
223 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 15, Port Angeles  
Mondays, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm  
March – October

Master Gardener Demonstration Garden  
2711 Woodcock Road, Sequim  
Selected Saturdays, 10 am – 1 pm, when  
Digging Deeper presentations  
are scheduled  
May – October

Plant Clinic Helpline: (360) 417-2514  
Email: [mgplantclinic.clallam@gmail.com](mailto:mgplantclinic.clallam@gmail.com)

## Contact Information

For information about becoming a Master Gardener, or questions about Master Gardener activities, contact Program Coordinator  
Clallam County Extension Office  
223 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 15  
Port Angeles, WA 98362  
(360) 565-2679  
<http://extension.wsu.edu/clallam>

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WSU Extension Clallam County

# Fall and Winter Vegetable Gardening



WSU EXTENSION  
Clallam County

## Protecting Your Vegetable Garden

Protection from rain can extend the life of a winter garden dramatically. Heavy and prolonged rains can saturate the soil, encourage slugs, and create an ideal environment for leaf diseases. By covering your winter crops with a cold frame or row cover, you can avoid many of these problems and extend the growing season. The following structures protect plants from frost, heavy rain, and cold winds.

### **Cold Frames**

Cold frames are inexpensive structures for growing cool-weather crops. Cold frames rely on the sun as their sole source of heat. Heat is collected when the sun's rays penetrate clear plastic, glass, or fiberglass that covers a frame.

Frames can be built from many materials; wood and cinder block are most common. The size of your frame should depend on the amount of available space and desired crop. Include a way to ventilate the cold frame when temperatures rise above 45°.

### **Row covers**

A simple cover of plastic or fabric can be installed over garden beds to trap the sun's heat and warm your plants during the cooler winter months.

A framework of arched wire or PVC piping needs to first be installed over your beds. A cover of plastic or fabric needs to be securely attached to this framework. Plastic coverings come in varying thicknesses. Spun polyester, such as Reemay and Agribon, is also a popular covering with various thicknesses.

Information adapted from WSU Publication PNW 548 "Fall and Winter Vegetable Gardening in the Pacific Northwest"

Crop	Seeding Month	Month to Harvest	Varieties recommended for the North Olympic Peninsula by Clallam County Master Gardeners
Arugula	Aug – Sept	Oct – Feb	Dragon's Tongue, Roquette, Speedy, Sylvetta
Beets	April – June	Aug – Nov	Autumn Harvest Blend, Chioggia, Detroit Red, Golden, Touchstone Gold
Broccoli	Aug	Nov – May	Purple Sprouting, Rudolph, Thompson,
Cabbage (Fall) Cabbage (Overwinter)	June/July July/Aug	Oct-Dec Jan-Mar	Golden Acre, Green Mariner January King, Tundra
Carrots	August	March – June	Danvers Half Long, Eskimo, Merida
Cauliflower	August	Feb – April	Amazing, Olympic
Chard	Aug – Sept	Nov – Jan	Bali, Bright Lights, Golden, Perpetual
Greens, Asian and Mustard	July – Sept	Oct – Dec, If covered	Bok Choi, Ching-Chang, Komatsuna, Mizuna, Pak Choi, Tah Tsai
Greens (spring)	Aug – Sept	All winter, if covered	Micro Greens, Mild Mesclun Blend, Provencal Winter Mix, Yukon Winter Lettuce Mix
Kale	July – Aug	Oct – May	Curly Scots, Nero Di Toscana, Maribor, Red Russian, Redbor, Siberian, Winterbor
Lettuce (fall)	July – Sept	All winter, if covered	Continuity, Merlot, Rouge D'Hiver, Winter Density
Lettuce (winter)	Sept	Dec – May, if covered	Continuity, Little Gem, Merlot, North Pole, Winter Density, Winterwunder
Onion (green bunching)	Aug	May – July	Red Guardsman, White Bunching
Parsnips	April – June	Aug – Dec	Gladiator, Javelin
Radish	Aug – Sept	Nov – Feb	Dragon, Runder Schwarzer, Winter Daikon, Winter Solstice
Rutabaga	July	Nov – Feb	Joan, Magres
Spinach	Aug – Sept	Oct – Feb	Bloomsdale, Giant Winter, Olympia, Perseus, Savoy
Turnip	May - July	Aug – Dec.	Hakurei, Purple Top White Globe, Tokyo Cross