#### Master Gardener Volunteer



#### Year Round Gardening

By Cindy Nelsen, Missouri Valley Master Gardener September 15, 2022 Yankton Seed Library Presentation

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# Fall Planting

- Excellent time to plant:
  - Trees
  - Shrubs
  - Perennials
  - Spring flowering bulbs (tulips, daffodils, crocuses)
  - Seeding and sodding lawns
  - Seeding a cover crop in garden
  - Fall vegetables



#### Trees, Shrubs and Perennials:

- Remember to dig holes twice as big as the pot to loosen the soil up around the plants.
- Even if leaves fall off due to frost the roots will continue to grow some until the ground freezes.
- Make sure to keep plants watered well untilo ground freezes.



#### Trees, Shrubs and Perennials (cont.):

 You can use a root stimulator product to increase root formation at planting time to help it go into winter better. Also use a fertilizer with higher P and K numbers. Use only at planting time. Too much fertilizer, especially high in nitrogen, will keep the plant actively growing when it should be shutting down and can cause the plant to die back or be killed by freezing.



#### Spring Flowering Bulbs

- Dig holes according to package instructions.
  May dig holes a bit bigger to add compost
- Add compost in holes and place bulbs on top of it. It is more superior than bone meal
- Place bulbs in holes with the pointed sides up.
  The flat parts go down in soil.









#### Seeding and Sodding Lawns

- Easier to do in fall
- Less watering needed with cooler temperatures to get established
- Right now is a perfect time to do it
- Overseeding can be done to those lawns that have died out in spots or if the lawn is thinned out.



#### Why a cover crop?

- Can help build soil structure
- Can help protect from soil loss erosion
- Can assist in weed and pest control for

next season





#### Selecting a Cover Crop

- Think of the timing of planting and which crops will follow in the space next season
- Some cover crops put nitrogen into the soil and some collect nitrogen from the air and put into the crop. When it breaks down, it releases the nitrogen into the soil.
- Radishes and cereal ryes help with weed suppression and collect nitrogen and other nutrients



#### Selecting a Cover Crop (cont.)

- Peas and clovers add nitrogen to the soil through their roots
- How much green manure do you want put into the soil? Do you need some or a lot?
- You will need 6 weeks or so before killing frons for any cover crop to get its' biomass and root system robust enough to do some work in the soil



### Selecting a Cover Crop (cont.)

 Some crops will winter kill from cold temperatures and others will have to be terminated in the spring.







#### **Types of Cover Crops**

- Cereal rye (winter rye)
- Tillage radish (these are big ones)
- Winter pea (field pea)
- Annual rye grass
- Buckwheat
- Mustard
- Hairy vetch
- Turnips





#### **Cover Crops**

- Easiest way to apply is broadcast the seed in the garden and lightly rake it in.
- Seed to soil contact is important.
- Keep moist to get established and grow.







#### Fall Vegetables

- Some to try:
  - Radishes: 25-50 days
  - Leafy greens: Spinach, lettuce, Swiss Chard, Mustards, Kale, Pak Choi, Bok Choy
  - Bunching Onions (Green Onions)
  - Kohlrabi
  - Peas







## Fall Vegetables (cont.)

- Beets: Early Wonder (45 days)
- Carrots
- Turnips
- Cabbage







### Winter Gardening

- Things you need if want to garden outside
  - Cold frames, High Tunnels, caterpillar tunnels or low tunnels
  - Also, can use a frost blanket for insulation





#### Gardening Inside

- Can grow sprouts & microgreens easily and in a short period of time
- Tower or Vertical systems
- Aerogardens or Click & Grow (a couple companies)
- Any pots or table with lighting that can be up close to the plants
- You can reuse any containers like plastic salad containers, 2-liter bottles, deli containers



## **Vertical Systems**



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## Pots with enhanced lighting





## Pots with natural lighting

