

# Presented by Missouri Valley Master Gardeners



## Proactive Planting



## Preventing Problems

- Grow plants in healthy soil
- Choose disease-resistant varieties
- Don't overcrowd plants
- Mulch to control moisture levels and reduce weeds
- Practice crop rotation
- Inspect your plants & address problems before they get out of hand



## Preventing Problems

- Garden vertically
- Practice companion planting
- Be sanitary—wash hands; clean shoes
- Clean & disinfect garden tools
- Clean up your garden in the fall



## Vertical Gardening

- Advantages
- make the most out of limited space
- plants have greater access to sunshine
- reduced risk of disease
- weeding and watering become easier
- easier to harvest





## What to use for growing "up"



- Ladders
- Attachments to divider fence
- Trellises
- •Cages



## Poles





Tomatoes tied to poles

Pole beans on poles wired together

## A-frames



 Bamboo canes or trimmed branches



 Fencing (hog or cattle panels are strong)

## Archways

- Fencing on a frame
- Cattle panels
- PVC pipe frame





## Supporting heavy vegetables

### Soft, stretchy fabrics:

- Old nylon stockings
- Mesh bags
- Tie to frame of trellis



## Go all out—build your own

#### Harry's Garden, Portland OR

- Permanent raised beds
- Bent electrical tubing
- PVC pipe
- Nylon webbing









## Blocking Access to Your Garden

#### **Fencing**

- Bury about 1' of your fence underground to block burrowing animals
- deer fence will need to be around 8' tall, deer look for a safe place to land before jumping

#### Build raised beds in your garden

- –At least 2' off the ground will keep most rabbits out
- Add a bottom layer of mesh fencing to your raised bed will keep burrowing animals out

**Create covers for your plants** 



# Include plants that deter animals

#### Aromatic

- Sage
- Mint
- Rosemary (zone 6)
- Dill
- Oregano
- Lavender (zone 5)
- Catnip
- Garlic
- Silva
- Peonies
- Bearded Iris



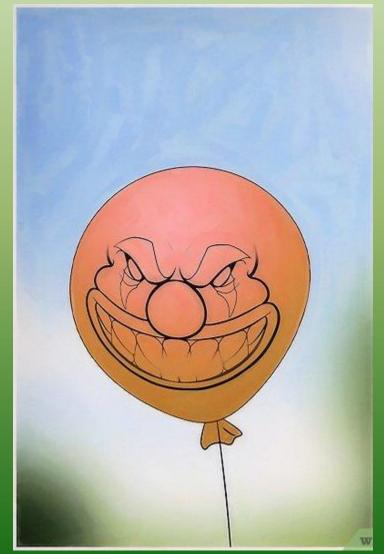
## **Texture**

- Lambs Ear
- Allium
- Artemesia
- Baptisia
- Buddleia
- Digitalis
- Miscanthus
- Monarda
- Pennisetum
- Rugosa roses
- Salvia
- Viburnum



# Keep birds away from your garden

- Shiny balloons on posts around your garden
- Fishing line or black thread throughout your garden



## Get rid of slugs and snails

- Diatomaceous Earth (DE), a powder containing tiny sharp fragments that hurts snails and slugs
- Beer trap buy pouring beer into a shallow container
- Copper barrier
- Red clover as a sacrificial plant



## **Motion Sensors**

Modern Scare Crows



## Cats

- Cover the soil with uncomfortable material
  - Rough-textured mulch
  - Prickly pinecones
  - Pebbles and stones
  - Chicken wire
- Place sticks in the soil
  - plant stakes,
  - chopsticks,
  - approximately ten inches in length place every eight inches



## Resources

Building trellises (Harry's Garden):

http://www.harrysgarden.org/presentations.html

Grande, M., Companion Planting: The Beginner's Guide to Companion Gardening, 2014.

Growing beans: https://www.thespruce.com/how-to-grow-green-beans-1403459

Landscape Plants Rated by Deer Resistance

https://njaes.rutgers.edu/deer-resistant-plants/

## Vegetable of the Month: Beans

