What is gardening done right?

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles



2. Water efficiently

- 3. Fertilize appropriately
- 4. Mulch
- 5. Attract wildlife
- 6. Manage yard pests
- 7. Recycle
- 8. Reduce stormwater runoff
- 9. Protect the waterfront



Growing Food in Your Landscape

- Follow the science-based recommendations from UF/IFAS and your local extension.
- Keep it simple, learn from your mistakes and try again.
- We all have farmers in our family trees.



Growing Food in Your Landscape

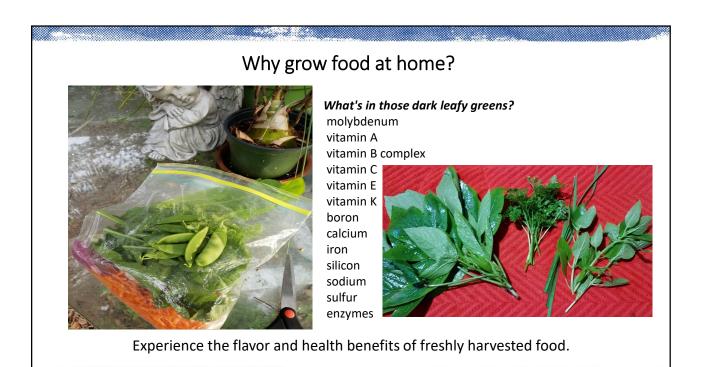
- Why grow food at home?
- What are the major challenges?
- Where can food grow?
- How do I start?

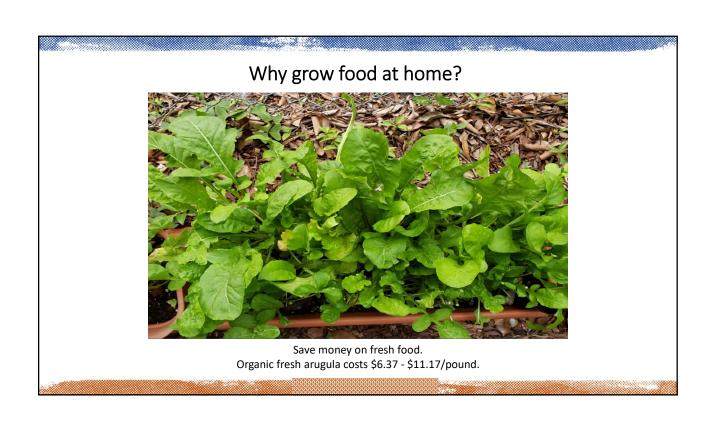


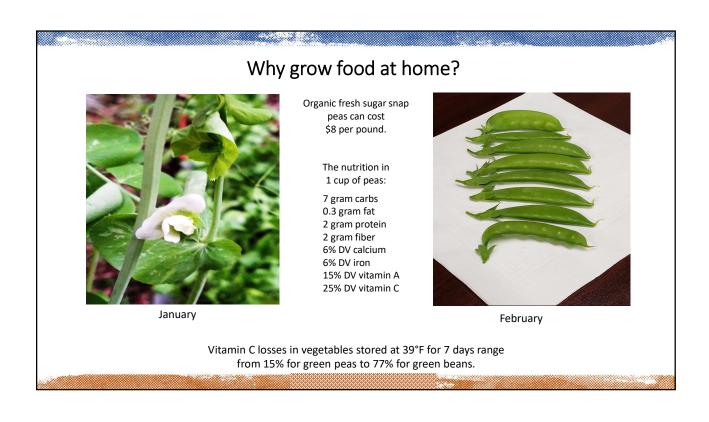
Why grow food at home?

- Gardeners gotta garden.
- The earth is always growing food and the earth at your home can be productive, too.
- Easy access to the season's pick.
- Save money on fresh food.
- Experience the flavor and health benefits of freshly harvested food.
- Because our baby gardeners need our gardens to learn and to practice.





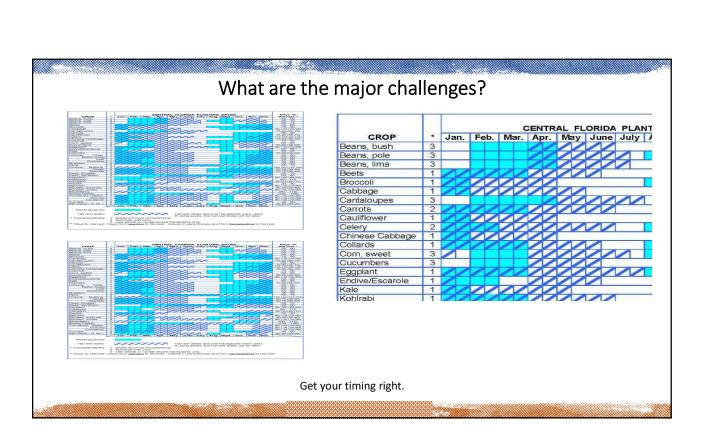






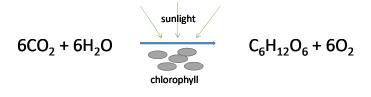
What are the major challenges?

- Get your timing right.
 - Central Florida Gardening Calendar, Sydney Park Brown, ENH1189/EP450
 - Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide, Sydney Park Brown, Danielle Treadwell, J.M. Stephens, and Susan Webb, SP103/VHO21
 - Vegetable Gardening by Season, https://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/care/planting/vegetable-gardens-by-season.html
- Keep your food plants safe from:
 - Pets, critters and pests
 - Established yard maintenance routines
- Weather and water and sun and soil



Where can food grow?

- Find the sunniest spots.
 - Those spots change with the seasons and as your landscape matures.
- Establish easy access for watering, monitoring and harvesting.
- Dirt. Soil. Terra firma. Mother Earth. Hummus. Humus.
- Microclimates.
- Containers.
- Out of sight, out of mind, out of order, and out of control!







How do I start?

- Gloves, kneeling pad
- · Feed the earth and it will feed you
 - leaves, detritus, compost, other people's leaves
- Scissors, trowel, stakes, twine
- Hose, nozzle, watering can
- Pots, starter packs, bagged soil, compost
- Fertilizer: granular and liquid. Say 'yes' to worm tea. (Learn about Vermi-composting from UF/IFAS Extension Hillsborough County.)
- Patience



