Early Spring Vegetable Gardening
Spring Home Gardeners School
March 22, 2014

Benefits of a spring garden
Fewer weeds/insects/diseases
Nice weather: Not too hot as in summer
More sunlight than you might get when leaf canopy is out
Less watering

What are you planting?
Vegetables require 7-8 hours of sun per day (Containers provide flexibility)
Consequences of inadequate sun

What are you planting it in?
Prepared beds, pots, cold frame
If in beds, have you had a soil test?

Vegetables you can plant today (outdoors from seed) and eat within 8 weeks
Arugula, Asian Greens, Carrots*, Cilantro, Collards, Kale, Lettuces, Mustard Greens, PEAS, Radishes, Spinach, Chard (*Carrots take more like 10-12 weeks but plant them now. You’ll be happy you did.) You can also pre-germinate seeds indoors.

A few sources of information on planting calendars:
(key words to search: Zone 7 Spring Planting Guide)
www.burpee.com
(Go to bottom of page. Under “Help with Your Garden” click “Growing Calendar”) www.youtube.com Growing Wisdom Channel (Spring Vegetable Gardening)

A few favorite books:
All New Square Foot Gardening by Mel Bartholomew
Weedless Gardening by Lee Reich
Week-by-Week Vegetable Gardener’s Handbook by Ron Kujawski and Jennifer Kujawski

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