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# School Garden Tips: November



- **Garden Maintenance:**

Summer is over :- ( and it's time to begin preparing for the next planting cycle. Pull out those warm season annual vegetables, such as tomatoes, eggplant, squash, cucumbers, etc. They can go in your compost pile, unless they are covered with pests or infected with disease. Infected/diseased plant matter should go directly into the city green bin. Add organic matter (compost) to the soil. Remember that raised beds need more soil amendment than in-ground beds. Continue to water until the rain comes, even if you haven't planted anything yet, in order to keep the soil microbes alive. Rake leaves and debris, especially any fallen fruit, from under and around plantings, as they can harbor overwintering fungal spores. Be sure to stir/turn and water your compost pile as you continue to add green and brown plant matter. Prune back and trim perennial berry

bushes and roses. Prune any diseased leaves from fruit trees and put directly into the city green bin.

- **Planting Guide**

Seeds: Arugula, Fava Beans, Spinach, Chard, Radish

Plants: Bok Choy, Broccoli, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Collards, Kale, Lettuce, Peas, Spinach, Chard As soon as the rain starts, plant CA native plants

- **Pest & Disease Alert:**

Monitor brassicas for aphids and remove by washing the leaves with a strong stream of water. Remove badly infested plants or plant parts. Aphids come in many colors--lime green, white and black to name a few--and look very interesting under magnification if you have access to magnifying glasses or magnifying containers. For more info about aphids, see the [UC IPM aphid page](#). For other pests or diseases, check the [UC Pest and Disease Notes](#) or reach out to your mentor.

Mentor's Note: Remember that the Healthy Schools Act prohibits almost all sprays and pesticides from use in school facilities. Please restrict your pest and disease recommendations to methods that do not require purchased products--e.g. good cultural practices, resistant cultivars, barriers, water sprays, and removal of infected plants and plant parts. Even if a product is allowed, advance notification to parents and school staff by law. If you have tried everything that you can think of and believe that a pesticide is required at your school site, please check with Devra before recommending to your mentee.

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