

## **OVERVIEW of PLANTING NEEDS** **for SEEDLINGS and GARDEN**

All seedlings need maximum light, sunny south window or ideally outdoor full natural sunlight, but sheltered (greenhouse or coldframe). Be mindful of temperatures needed for different plants. All seedlings need to stay moist, moderately watered.

### **START as SEEDLINGS**

#### **Nightshade Family- Tomatoes, Peppers, Eggplants** **(also Basil and Cilantro- different plant families)**

Slow growing. Start seedlings in April, or early May at latest. Keep warm (18-20deg.)  
Transplant out in Early June. No Frost tolerance. Need warm weather.

#### **Brassica Family- Cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, kohlrabi, kale** **(also Lettuces, scallions, parsley, chives, oregano, swiss chard- different plant families)**

Medium growing pace. Start seedlings in April, or anytime after. Can handle cooler temperatures. Grown plants can take some frost, seedlings slightly more tender.

Transplant in May or anytime after.

Can start new seedlings of these plants every 10 days (until early August) for succession harvesting.

With chard and kale, only one planting needed—individual leaves can be harvested from the same plants all season.

#### **Curcubit family- Zucchini, cucumbers, winter squash, melons**

Fast-growing, no frost tolerance. Start seedlings mid-may, to transplant out early June. Roots are sensitive, try not to disturb them too much. If possible, use peat pots or soil blocks.

Or can put seeds straight in ground in early June.

#### **Allium Family- Onions, Leeks – starting from seeds**

Slow growing, day-length sensitive. Start March or April. Fine with cooler temperatures. Can transplant out in May or after. Grown plants have some frost tolerance, seedlings slightly more tender.

Onions- can also purchase bulbs, plant any time May or after.

### **PLANT STRAIGHT INTO GROUND**

**Garlic** (Allium family)- Plant Individual cloves in October, best if overwintered for full development of heads. Can handle cooler temps. Harvest green scapes (tops) in early July.

**Potatoes** (Nightshade family)- plant pieces with eyes for sprouting, in May or after. Can handle cooler temps.

**Carrots, beets, radishes, swiss chard, kale**- plant seeds in ground, May or any time after. Can handle cooler temps. Thin to wider spacings later.

#### **Legume Family-**

**Peas** --plant seeds in ground at 1-2inch spacing, May or after. No thinning. Can handle cold.

**Beans**- plant seeds in ground at 1-2inch spacing, June 1 or after. No thinning. Can **not** handle cold.

**Heather Thoma** **LoonSong Garden**

**Little Current, ON** **(705) 368-0460** **loonsong@vianet.ca** **www.loonsong.net**