

# Seed and Plant Start Requests

Community Food Initiatives hopes that your students will benefit from stimulating gardening experiences this spring. We can help in several ways: project coordination, grants, technical assistance, and material support. Providing schools with seeds and plant starts is part of what we would like to do to support your school gardening efforts. Consider the following questions as you plan your spring time school gardening activities.

## **Should you use plant starts or sew seeds directly?**

Sowing seeds directly in the garden is efficient. However for many plants it may not be a realistic activity until the school year is nearly over. Killing frosts are possible in early May. Indoor plant starts can develop in safety. Students can observe, nurture, and report on plant growth for any number of learning outcomes.

## **Do you have a growing space in your classroom or building?**

A good growing space will receive sunlight at least six hours a day. Temperatures should remain steady and moderate, so be mindful of open windows and heating vents. The space may get moist or dirty as students care for plants. Students will learn more and be enthusiastic if they can interact with the plants.

## **Do you have the materials for creating plant starts?**

On the opposite side of this form is a list of supplies you will need for creating plant starts. You may already have most of what you need. Community Food Initiatives can provide plant starts, help your students create plant starts, or a combination of both.

## **Is your outdoor garden space prepared?**

Before planting students need to weed the beds, work-in soil amendments, and create a season extension plan if they want to plant early. With a combination of proper plant selection, plant starts and season extension students can harvest before the end of the school year. Preparing for season extension can take some planning it is best to start several weeks in advance. Contact CFI if you would like some assistance.

**Complete the Front and back of this form and return it to Community Food Initiatives.**

94 Columbus Road, Athens Ohio 45701 740-593-5971 [schools@communityfoodinitiatives.org](mailto:schools@communityfoodinitiatives.org)

**Name:**

**School:**

**Address:**

**Phone:**

**Email:**

Indicate the supplies, seeds or plant starts you would like to receive.

Vegetable	Seeds	Plant Starts from CFI	Notes
Basil			
Beans, Green			
Beets			Cold Hardy
Broccoli			Cold Hardy, Long Time to Mature
Cabbage			Cold Hardy
Cantaloupe			Summer Time Growth, Fall Harvest
Carrots			Semi-Cold Hardy
Cauliflower			Cold Hardy, Long Time to Mature
Celery			
Corn			Summer Time Growth, Fall Harvest
Cucumber			Summer Time Growth, Fall Harvest
Kale			Cold Hardy
Lettuce			Cold Hardy, Quick to Harvest
Okra			
Peas, Snow			Semi-Cold Hardy
Peas, Sugar Snap			Semi-Cold Hardy
Peppers, Bell			
Peppers, Hot			
Potatoes			
Pumpkins			Summer Time Growth, Fall Harvest
Radish			Cold Hardy, Quick to Harvest
Spinach			Cold Hardy, Quick to Harvest
Swiss Chard			Semi-Cold Hardy
Squash			Summer Time Growth, Fall Harvest
Tomatoes			Summer Time Growth, Fall Harvest
Turnips			Cold Hardy
Watermelon			Summer Time Growth, Fall Harvest

Supplies	Estimated Need	Notes
Pots		
Soil		
Season Extension Supplies		
Gardening Tools		