

List of Allowed/Disallowed Fertilizers, Pesticides, and Herbicides

The Lewisburg Community Garden is a microcosm of sustainability and environmental stewardship. This philosophy encapsulates ideals from local food production to healthy eating and cognizance of our environmental footprints. The following tables are our official policies regarding fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides allowed and disallowed in the Lewisburg Community Garden. Updates to this list will be made available online and distributed as needed throughout the growing season. If you have questions about an additive not on our list, please contact garden staff BEFORE its use. Failure to contact garden staff before use of an unapproved additive may result in removal of affected plants or forfeiture of your plot.

(Adapted from Bloomington, IN Community Garden Guidelines)

| Approved Fertilizers | Disapproved Fertilizers |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organic compost • Animal manures (composted or aged before use; never use fresh manure) • Alfalfa meal • Blood meal • Hoof and horn meal • Kelp or seaweed (liquid or powder) • Fish emulsion • Rock phosphate • Soft phosphate (colloidal) • Bone meal • Wood ashes • Granite or feldspar dust • Greensand | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synthetic fertilizers of any kind (e.g. Miracle Gro) • ANY formulations containing sewage sludge (e.g. Milorganite) • DAP and MAP (ammonium phosphates) • Chilean nitrate • Superphosphate (acidulated phosphates) • Chilean nitrate of potash (15-0-14) • Muriate of potash, KCl (0-0-60) • Charcoal/Cigarette ashes |
| Approved Pesticides/Pest Management | Disapproved Pesticides/Pest Management |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cage traps (consult with garden staff first) • Row cover • Garlic/Onion/Vegetable oils • Biodegradable insecticidal soaps • BT (<i>Bacillus Thuringiensis</i>) • Diatomaceous Earth • Bicarbonates (sodium or potassium) • Isopropyl alcohol • Hydrogen peroxide • Neem Oil* • Quassia* • Ryania* • Sabadilla* • Formulations containing copper (e.g. Bordeaux Mix)* | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ANY synthetic pesticides (Bug B Gon, Captan, Diazinon, Insectagon, Kelthane, Lindane, malathion, Permethrin, Sevin, Thuricide, etc.) • Nicotine in any form • Rotenone • Pyrethrum • Gasoline/Diesel oils |
| Approved Herbicides | Disapproved Herbicides |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White vinegar + squirt of soap (spray on leaves ONLY)** • Boiling water (allowed, but not recommended) • Plastic covers for weed control* | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ANY synthetic herbicides (Round-Up, Preen 'n Green, Weed-B-Gon, etc) • Fire/Flame weeders • Salts |

*Please contact garden staff before use.

**Vinegar can lower soil pH to dangerously low levels. Please use extreme care in application

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LCG Staff Recommendations for Pest/Weed control:

1. The best method of controlling weeds is to pull them before they can spread. Keep an eye out for weeds whenever you visit your plot.
2. Laying down (organic) mulch in your bed will help the soil retain water AND suppress weeds.
3. Use Companion Plants – Companion Plants are plants that attract beneficial insects to your plants. These insects will eat harmful insects without damaging your plants. See the table below for our recommendations on companion plants.

Common Companion Plants

| Problem Insect(s) | Companion Plant | Pair With... | Notes |
|---|---------------------------|---|---|
| Beetles Beet leaf hoppers Cabbageworms Nematodes Whiteflies | Marigolds | Broccoli, cabbage, cucumbers, eggplants, gourds, squash, melons, & tomatoes | Can attract spider mites & slugs |
| Asparagus beetle Tomato worm | Pot Marigolds (Calendula) | Asparagus, tomatoes | |
| Aphids Pumpkin beetles Squash bugs | Nasturtium | Brassicas, squash, potatoes, pumpkins, radishes, tomatoes, | Delicious in salads |
| Armyworm | Sunflowers | Cucumbers, corn | Also attract birds. |
| Mosquitoes | Basil | Tomatoes, lettuce | Said to make tomatoes taste better as a companion. Jury is still out on that. |