

Garden Planning:

Planting Bright Ideas for Spring



As the days grow longer and the soil begins to warm, it's time to turn bright ideas into blooming results. Whether you're planting your very first tomato or mapping out a full backyard harvest, spring is the perfect season to plan with purpose.

For many of us in southeastern Indiana, gardening is more than a hobby — it's a tradition. It's about fresh food on the table, flowers on the porch, and lessons shared across generations. A little thoughtful planning now can make all the difference come summer.

Start with a Plan

Before you plant a single seed, sketch out your space. Consider:

- How much sunlight does each area receive? (Most vegetables need 6–8 hours daily.)
- Is your soil well-drained?
- What did you plant there last year?

Rotating crops — especially tomatoes, peppers, and squash — helps reduce pests and soil fatigue. Even a simple notebook plan can help you track what works best year after year.

Choose What You'll Actually Use

It's easy to get excited flipping through seed catalogs. But focus on fruits, vegetables, and herbs your family truly enjoys. Popular choices in our area include:

- Tomatoes
- Green beans
- Zucchini
- Peppers
- Lettuce
- Basil



If space is limited, raised beds or container gardens can produce impressive yields in small areas.

Prep Now for Success Later

Early spring is the time to:

- Test and amend your soil with compost.
- Clean and sharpen tools.
- Start seeds indoors if needed.
- Check hoses and watering systems for leaks.

Small maintenance steps now prevent bigger headaches in July.

Think Beyond Vegetables

Don't forget flowers! Pollinator-friendly plants like coneflowers, zinnias, and marigolds attract bees and butterflies — which also benefit your vegetable garden.

Gardening reminds us that growth takes patience, care, and a little faith in the future. Just like your co-op invests in bright ideas for tomorrow, you can invest in your own backyard — one seed at a time.

Here's to digging in and growing something wonderful this season.