DigBits

Companion planting

DIG Durham Integrated Growers — FOR A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

Companion planting is the practice of planting two or more plants together for mutual benefit.

- **Shelter** - larger plants protect others from wind or too much sun.
- **Support** - Some vegetables can be used as physical supports for others. For example, pole beans with corn use the corn as a trellis.

- **Beneficial Insects** - attracting beneficial insects such as bees help spread pollen.
- **Soil Improvement** - some vegetables improve soil conditions for other plants. Members of the legume family (beans etc.) draw nitrogen from the atmosphere and add it to the soil around them.

- **Decoy Plants** - these are plants that emit odors that aid in masking the odors of insect-desirable vegetable plants.

Use this chart as a guide, and modify it as you find what works (or doesn't work) in your own garden.

asparagus	basil	cilantro	dill	marigold	nasturtium	oregano	parsley	tomato	thyme
	NO – broccoli, garlic, onion, potato								
bean (bush)	beet	nasturtium	pea	potato	rosemary	squash			
	NO – chives, garlic, marigold, onion, shallot								
bean (pole)	carrot	celery	chard	corn	cucumber	eggplant	pea	potato	radish
	NO – beet, broccoli, marigold								
beet	bean (bush)	corn	garlic	lettuce	kohlrabi	mint	onion		
	NO – bean (pole), tomato								
broccoli	celery	onion	potato	rosemary	sage				
	NO – bean (pole), asparagus, pepper, potato, pumpkin, corn, melon, strawberry, tomato								
cabbage	celery	cucumber	dill	garlic	kale	lettuce	nasturtium	onion	rosemary · tomato
	NO – marigold								
carrot	bean	leek	lettuce	pea	onion	pepper	rosemary	sage	tomato
	NO – potato, parsnip, anise, dill								
corn	bean	beet	cucumber	pea	potato	squash	sunflower		
	NO – broccoli, tomato, wheat-straw mulch								
cucumber	bean	cabbage	corn	lettuce	nasturtium	pea	radish		
	NO – aromatic herb, potato								
garlic	beet	cabbage	eggplant	tomato					
	NO – bean, pea								
lettuce	beet	cabbage	carrot	onion	strawberry				
	NO – parsley								
marigold	asparagus	pepper	potato	tomato					
	NO – bean								
nasturtium	asparagus	bean	cabbage	cucumber	squash				
onion	beet	broccoli	cabbage	carrot	lettuce	pepper	potato	rosemary	strawberry · tomato
	NO – asparagus, bean, pea, sage								
pea	bean	carrot	corn	cucumber	potato	tomato	radish	turnip	
	NO – garlic, onion								
pepper	carrot	onion	marigold						
	NO – bean, kohlrabi, potato								
potato	bean	broccoli	cabbage	corn	horse-radish	marigold	onion	pea	
	NO – asparagus, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, carrot, cucumber, eggplant, melon, pepper, squash, tomato, sunflower								
squash	bean	corn	mint	nasturtium	radish	sunflower			
	NO – potato								
sunflower	bean	corn	squash						
	NO – potato								
tomato	asparagus	basil	cauliflower	cabbage	carrot	dill	garlic	marigold	onion · pea
	NO – beet, potato								