

2020 Gardener Survey – Suggestions & Comments

Critter control:

- I was thankful for the stepped-up efforts at getting rid of the (under)ground pests last year as they were very active and they do a lot of damage to the plants growing in the plots. Please keep this effort up this year.
- Have concerns about rodents this year and open to suggestions from those who have successfully deterred them. I'd like to know what the board would allow me to do to protect my low bed this year? June seems so far away!!
- Is there any way to keep the creatures from our gardens?
- After 4 years in the EVCG, I only pick the plants that are sure things. However, nothing worked well when the critters were mowing down everything. They even ate the marigolds. I did everything I could, including row covers. I truly thought my gardening days were over. It was so much better after the pest control kicked in and the garden had a chance.
- At the beginning of the season, the creatures chewed down all our sugar snap peas, carrots, and beets and things had a hard time getting started again.

Water/Weather/Other:

- I need to go water my plot every day and not rely solely on the water line.
- Anything not directly under the water line did not do well this year.
- Not a very good year. Late start. Poor germination. Radishes got fleas. Critter ate roots. Needed to supplement the irrigation more than usual.
- I need to get an earlier start.
- Perhaps getting plants not planting seeds.
- I have severe back and knee problems. A raised garden would really help as bending makes things worse.
- I believe the heat from the fires and lack of sunshine was the downfall of some of my crops.

Events:

- So hoping we can have some masked/distanced garden gatherings, pot luck etc. this year. I think it's doable and I really value the Community part of Community Garden :D I'd be happy to help with this.
- It would be great to someday hold some sort of social or educational gatherings to meet other gardeners!
- Hope we can return to some in-person events again this summer. The dinner where we shared things from our garden was fun before.
- More scheduled opportunities for in-garden gardener to gardener sharing on gardening techniques and experiences.

Any other comments?

- I had a wonderful experience.
- Love the community garden, even in an off year!
- We enjoy the all of the processes of the garden :)
- I love it even when it doesn't produce.
- We really enjoy the garden.
- Loved doing the pollinator garden last summer and hope to do it again!

- It was better this year with the raised plot versus the on the ground plot because of my disability.
- I love how you put the ice chest out for people to donate and I think they responded somewhat well to your encouragement of donating! Thanks for doing that and for also providing a pleasant atmosphere! It's beautiful there and I also always appreciate the way you communicate to us in the emails. It's always well put, wise words, to the point and very helpful to all & kind throughout. I always wonder, "how do they do it?!" you all never skip a beat! Maybe because you're gardeners!! and you take time to smell the roses, so therefore, you're more or less laid back people with some good experience under your belts! Anyways, I'm glad to be a part, thank you for letting me be with you!
- The EVCG board is great! You do everything to help the gardeners succeed.
- Thanks for all you do!

2020 Gardener Survey - Crops with both successful and unsuccessful reports*	
Successful Crops Listed by Gardeners	Unsuccessful Crops Listed by Gardeners
Arugula	Arugula
Beets, beet greens	Beets (did better in years prior)
Carrots – Black Nebula	Carrots
Green beans	Green beans (low yields)
Herbs: Borage, native Chenopodium capitatum [Strawberry Goosefoot], Cilantro, Oregano, White clover	Herbs: Basil, Chives, Parsley
Onions – green (scallions), red onion	Onions, Green onions
Peas - Oregon Sugar Pod II; Snow peas	Sugar snap peas (eaten by rodents). Snow peas (low yield). Peas both years did poorly and got that white fungus?
Radishes	Radishes
Spinach	Spinach (quickly went to seed and insect damage) Orach [French Spinach, a warm-season crop]
Tomatoes: Cherry tomatoes did amazingly well past 2 years.	Tomatoes
Zucchini	Zucchini
Crops with only successful reports	Crops with only problem reports
Flowers: native Yarrow, native Evening Primrose, Marigolds, wildflowers	Broccoli, Brussels sprouts, Cauliflower
Garlic	Corn
Kale – Red Russian	Hot peppers
Lettuce - Little Gem, other leaf lettuces, butter lettuce	Okra
Rhubarb	Squash - had some sort of fungus
Swiss chard	Strawberries (eaten by rodents)

*See evcg.org/Resources under Specific Crops for “Plants that can be grown in Estes Park”, and under Weeds, Diseases & Pests for info about common ones in the Community Garden.