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School Garden Tips: January



- **Garden Maintenance:** Prune dormant, deciduous plants, including fruit trees and grape vines. *Attend the fruit tree pruning activity on January 22 (location: New Highland/RISE Elementary, 8521 A St, Oakland, CA 94621) to learn more.* Also prune summer blooming perennial shrubs, including sages, penstemons, California fuchsia, and butterfly bush. Plan your early spring (cool season) garden, and if appropriate for your site, your summer (warm season) garden. Continued rain will keep the weeds sprouting. Be sure to pull them before they flower.
- **Planting Guide**
 - **Seeds:** Indoors if available: Arugula, Fava Beans, Carrots, Collards/Kale, Lettuce, Onion Sets, Peas, Radish, Chard.
 - **Plants:** Vegetable plants and seeds should not be planted this month, due to the danger of frost. The exception is bareroot perennials, such as fruit trees,

strawberries, cane berries, blueberries, and grapes (if you have something sturdy for them to grow on, such as a fence).. Bareroot plants are less expensive than buying potted plants later in the season, and planting now gives them a better chance to get established.

- **Pest & Disease Alert:** Continue to look for [slugs and snails](#), or signs of their damage--irregular holes with smooth edges on leaves and flowers. Hand picking is your best bet, especially after a recent rain or under cloudy skies.

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UC Master Gardener Program of Alameda County
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