

# What Can WE Grow in Bridgeport?

**Temperate Growing Zone:** located between the tropics to the South and the polar zone to the North. This includes North America and us in Connecticut.

**VS.**

**Tropical Growing Zone:** located along the Earth’s equator in what are called the Tropics. These areas receive excessive sunshine, hot and humid weather and abundant rainfall.

<b>Tropical Plants :</b>	<b>Temperate Plants :</b>
Plants that can be grown in tropical weather year-round where there is no snow, ice, or frost.	Plants that can be grown where the weather has distinct variations. These plants need a cold season to grow properly.
<b>Examples:</b> bananas, coffee, and sugarcane cannot grow in cold areas and need humid air.	<b>Examples:</b> Kale, asparagus and apple trees go “dormant” and grow slowly during the winter.
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Fun facts:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some tropical fruits and vegetables can be grown in the Southern part of the United States, but are imported to where they can’t be grown (oranges can be grown in Florida, but not Connecticut)</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Fun facts:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When we grow tomatoes in Bridgeport in the summer we are planting a tropical fruit during our warm season.</li> <li>Temperate plants like apples have a “chilling requirement” for their flowers to bloom the next year!</li> </ul>

**Crops I Grew Well Last Year:**

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**Crops I Struggled with Last Year:**

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## Questions:

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## What Grows When?

Cool Weather Plants	Warm Weather Plants
Cool weather crops grow well during Bridgeport's spring, summer and fall weather, but might get "stressed" or grow too fast during our hottest part of the summer	Warm weather crops can grow in warmer temperatures – like Bridgeport's summer! These are the dead plants we pull out of our garden beds in the fall before the snow comes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Don't mind some shade</li><li>• Can be planted in spring, summer &amp; fall</li><li>• Don't mind some frost</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Full sun</li><li>• Warm weather</li><li>• To be planted in the spring or summer (April – July)</li></ul>
<b>Examples:</b> Peas, lettuce, spinach, arugula, kale, radishes, carrots, collard greens, swiss chard	<b>Examples:</b> Green beans, peppers, eggplants, tomatoes, squash, callaloo, cucumbers

**Hardiness:** the ability to endure difficult conditions. When we talk about a plant's "cold hardiness" it means it can survive cold temperature or even frost!

- Collards are hardy, they won't grow much this winter but will be alive next spring.
- Tomatoes are not very cold hardy. They wilt when the temperature drops at night.

**Tolerance:** the ability to allow for variation. When we refer to heat tolerance, we mean the plant can continue to grow without producing seeds or tasting bitter during warm weather.

- Lettuce is not tolerant of heat. It 'bolts' by making flowers and tastes very bitter now that it's July.
- Beans are tolerant of heat. As long as they have water they are happy in the summer.

## Cool Weather Plants I Will Grow:



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**Warm Weather Plants I Will Grow:**

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**Questions:**

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