



WINTER GARDENING CHALLENGE – DAY 5

Protecting Your Winter Garden



Get 20% Off All Seeds During the Challenge

Shop 100% non-GMO quality seeds, natural fertilizers to boost your garden health, organic pest and disease control solutions, and more... Use coupon code **WINTER** to claim your seed discount.

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FREE GIVEAWAY



FREE!

**GIVEAWAY AT
THE END OF CLASS**

FREE GIVEAWAY



- Our “Winter L+R vs. Summer S+F” veggie formula to easily know which veggies grow best in the winter vs. the summer.
- The #1 critical factor for having a fresh harvest during the winter months.
- Example succession planting for a continual harvest of winter lettuce.
- Simple ways to protect your veggies during the winter without breaking your pocketbook.
- And more...

DOWNLOADS



RESOURCE CENTER

- In the FB group make sure to see the GUIDES for each day
- All resources for each class session will be posted in the guide for that class and also will be sent by email

OVERVIEW:

1. **DAY 1:** Choosing what to grow and starting your fall crops
2. **DAY 2:** Choosing where to grow your winter garden
3. **DAY 3:** Timing your winter garden - creating your planting calendar
4. **DAY 4:** Succession planting for a continual harvest
5. **DAY 5:** Protecting your winter garden & Q+A wrap-up



SILENCE DISTRACTIONS



THE PURPOSE OF PROTECTION

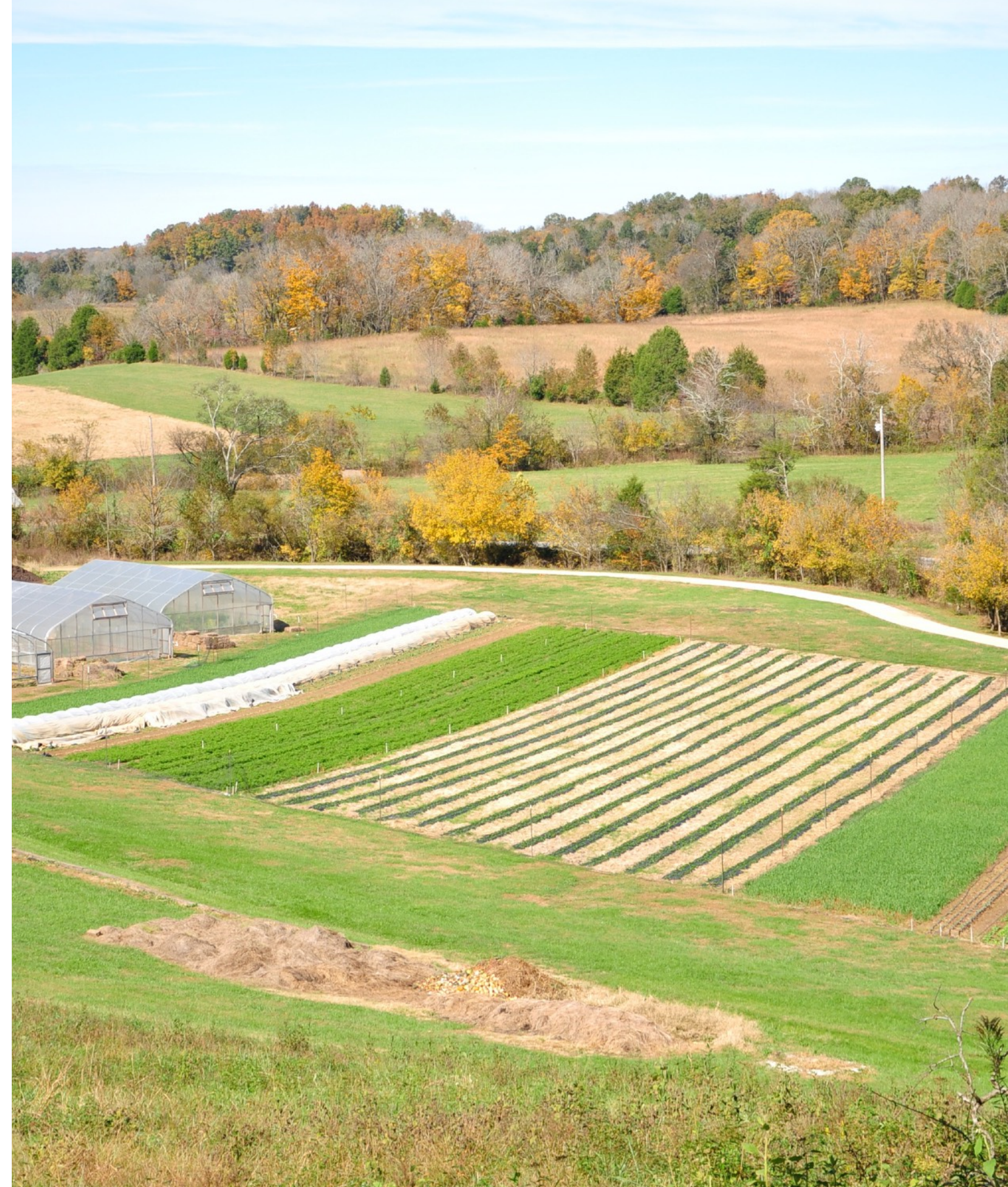
PROTECTION

1. Protecting your winter garden
2. All in all when you boil it down – any kind of protection is simply changing or modifying the existing climate in some way
3. This happens in a totally natural way in nature all the time



P – PROTECTION

1. For instance, a south facing slope warms up much faster in the winter and spring because the sun is shining more directly on it (in the northern hemisphere that is)
2. Valleys tend to collect cold air creating frost pockets while hill tops tend to stay warmer



P – PROTECTION

1. All of these little environmental changes create little microclimates where different plants can thrive
2. Our goal in protection is to do this as simply and as economically as possible
3. Simplicity and economics then have to be balanced with reality when it comes to actually keeping your plants alive
4. Then the question is – how much protection do I need?

P – PROTECTION

1. But first, let's note that protection has more to do with protection from the elements than it does from the cold itself
2. Yes, warmth is a key factor and some plants need more of it than others – but at times wind may actually cause the greater damage through desiccation of plant leaves or causing wind burn
3. The more still the air is around a plant – the lower temperatures that plant will be able to handle

P – PROTECTION

1. It's a lot like the wind chill we feel when we go out on a cold day
2. So practically, when it comes to creating a microclimate in your garden for growing through the winter – there are a couple things to consider
 1. The microclimate where you are growing
 2. Protection from the wind and elements

P – PROTECTION

1. In the end you may want to look at protecting your veggies from wind before worrying as much about keeping them warm





PRACTICAL WAYS TO PROTECT

PROTECTION

1. Protection can take on many forms and can range from being as simple as growing next to a wind break all the way up to building a full fledged greenhouse
2. We'll go ahead and cover several different ways to protect your veggies here





PROTECTION

- A Wind Break or Hedge
- Wind breaks or hedges can not only protect your veggies but can even raise the air temperature in the protected area by a couple degrees

COLD FRAMES

1. Cold frames are pretty traditional and could be a great option for the home garden
2. The basic idea is creating a raised bed or placing a box over your bed that uses sheets of glass or plastic as a roof

Picture credit - by Ofer El-Hashahar on Flickr (<http://www.flickr.com/photos/best4garden/9016651638/>) under Creative Commons License – (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/deed.en>)



COLD FRAMES

1. The glass or plastic can then be tilted up for ventilation
2. This can be effective if you are only wanting to grow a small amount – but due to the labor and cost involved in making a cold frame it might not be the best first choice

Picture credit - by Michael Cornelius on Flickr (<http://www.flickr.com/photos/cornelii/8466319705/>) under Creative Commons License – (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/deed.en>)



ROW COVERS

1. Row covers are perhaps the overall best way to protect veggies from the cold because they are very effective for the amount of cost and labor involved
2. It is a simple, light weight fabric cover that you can spread out like a blanket over your veggies



ROW COVERS

1. Some benefits of row covers are:

1. They are light weight
2. They allow light to pass through
3. They are breathable
4. They protect from wind
5. They increase the temperature
6. They are cost effective



ROW COVERS

1. So to use a row cover for protection in your garden you could just throw it over your crops like a blanket
2. But it would be better to keep it up off of the plants somehow
3. A great way is to use wire hoops
4. Another way is to build quick hoops which are like miniature little hoop houses



ROW COVERS

1. If you choose to purchase a row cover here is what we suggest
2. There are different thicknesses and we suggest getting a 1 oz. thickness – its probably the best compromise
3. This offers a good balance of light (about 70%) to come through while offering a good amount of protection at the same time
4. In zone 7 where we are in Tennessee – one row cover can effectively protect most of the medium cold tolerant crops

ROW COVERS

1. Row covers can be doubled to add even more protection but should be taken off to allow light and heat during the day
2. Row covers can also be used inside a greenhouse or hoop house to add a double layer of protection
3. In fact, John Dysinger used several layers of row covers to protect his tomato plants one spring from a hard frost resulting in outside temperatures being in the 20°s while under the covers (around 3 maybe 4) it was in the low 40°s F



ROW COVERS

- All in all, row covers probably give the best balance between cost efficiency, protection, and labor
- The next step up is to make a quick hoop, high tunnel, or caterpillar tunnel

A photograph showing a series of arched structures, known as 'quick hoops', covered in white plastic. The hoops are supported by wooden stakes. Yellow sandbags are tied to the bottom of the plastic covering to weigh it down. The background shows a field of corn and other crops.

HOW TO BUILD YOUR OWN WINTER “QUICK HOOPS” AND WHY THEY ARE SO EFFECTIVE



OTHER OPTIONS

- The next step up is to make a high tunnel or caterpillar tunnel
- A caterpillar tunnel is basically a larger quick hoop that you can walk under but is much smaller and simpler to construct than a full size hoop house



OTHER OPTIONS

- Caterpillar tunnels can be constructed yourself. See Johnny's Seeds for demos and a pipe bender to do that
- Or you can purchase kits from Farmer's Friend LLC

OTHER OPTIONS

1. Hoop house or Greenhouse
2. The difference between a hoop house and a greenhouse is simply a technical one:
3. Hoop houses are unheated while greenhouses usually have some source of heat



OTHER OPTIONS

1. A hoop house or greenhouse is really the ultimate way to take your garden to the next level in winter growing and can even be very helpful in the spring for starting new starts
2. They are much more expensive than the previously mentioned options – but they are often larger, can easily be purchased in kits, and have the nice benefit of being more accessible in that they have doors for entering and exiting

OTHER OPTIONS

1. You can also grow more tall crops effectively in a hoop house than in a caterpillar tunnel
2. Choosing a hoop house or a greenhouse over a caterpillar tunnel may be a challenge depending on what you want to do and how much you want to spend
3. For most people, we'd suggest going with a caterpillar tunnel
4. Overall, a caterpillar tunnel can be as low as 1/6 or so the cost of a hoop house for the same growing space

OTHER OPTIONS

1. Otherwise, if you have the capital to invest – it can be very nice to have the much more spacious area to work in, that a hoop house will give you
2. Plus, part of the hoop house can be easily transformed into a place for starting plants – which can be very handy
3. Cost wise here's a little comparison
 1. Hoop house: \$5,000 - \$10k
 2. Caterpillar Tunnel: \$1,400+



PROTECTION

- So there are many different ways that you can practically expand your season from using something as simple as a hedge all the way up to a full scale greenhouse
- Look at details about double or triple covering



LaRee Colburn

December 20, 2017



We are pretty excited about our first December harvest thanks to using the quick hoops that Paul talks about in the course. It is supposed to get really cold the next couple of weeks and be below zero at night and only about 20 degrees during the day and so I decided that row cover probably wasn't going to be enough to keep everything from freezing solid so I went ahead and harvested what was left. I sure wish I would've gotten more planted and gotten it in earlier as I would've had even more to harvest but we are thankful for what we have and we will do better next year. The problem was that my spring crops did not grow as quickly as I anticipated and so they were in the way when I needed to be planting fall crops. [#blessed](#) [#firstwinterharvest](#)



"Born to Grow has been a real blessing to me to help me stay connected to others who are growing their own veggies or at least want to. **I have been a gardener for about 30 years and I still learn things from Paul and his dad...** Born to Grow is a great way to get reliable knowledge about organic gardening.

I moved to an apartment building in Chattanooga, TN in July. There was only one small space in the yard that got much sun so I put in an 8 foot by 4 foot garden of Russian kale, Georgia southern collards, and black seeded Simpson lettuce in September... The lettuce needed more sun and didn't do well, but **the kale and collards did well all winter... I ate fresh greens all winter."**

James Hunt - Tennessee USA





Joelle Damsteegt McNulty

July 25 at 6:58pm

So. Much. Produce!! I want to say this season might be the most ever thanks to the new methods I've been using from these garden classes.





"I recently became a member of the Born to Grow community. I grew up growing a big garden with my parents and I am very passionate about gardening as an adult. **Though I consider myself to be a somewhat experienced gardener, I cannot even tell you how much I've learned already from the gardening courses.** For example, I never realized how much there is to know about soil health! Just today my kids and I counted the # of worms in a square foot of our garden dirt. It was a lot of fun - and told us a lot about our soil. I would've never known to do this had it not been for being a part of the Born to Grow community..."

LaRee Colburn - Nebraska USA



LaRee Colburn ▶ **Born to Grow Family** ...

August 27, 2017 · 🌐

Today's garden haul. I think it's safe to say I'll be snapping beans tomorrow 😊



Like



Comment



Joelle Damsteegt McNulty, Melissa Bull and 6 others



David Gasparro You are blessed with a bountiful harvest !

Like · Reply · 22w



2



LaRee Colburn replied · 1 Reply



Lisa Minchin-Hoelzl Wow!!

Like · Reply · 22w



1



Paul Dysinger You're a champion LaRee! (Quote from my wife Natasha 😊)

Like · Reply · 22w



1



Paul Dysinger replied · 8 Replies



LaRee Colburn So tell Natasha we really missed having her help 😊 but we survived. I failed to mention that there were still 2 bags of beans waiting to be snapped in the refrigerator. So in this batch we canned 68 quarts and that gives





HOMEWORK

HOMEWORK

1. **Choose** what kind of protection you will use for this winter
2. **Go LIVE or post** in the FB group sharing your #1 takeaway from today's class





Get 20% Off All Seeds During the Challenge

Shop 100% non-GMO quality seeds, natural fertilizers to boost your garden health, organic pest and disease control solutions, and more... Use coupon code **WINTER** to claim your seed discount.

[Shop This Discount](#)

LIFETIME UNLIMITED

- ✓ **Seedtime Calendar**
 - Unlimited Calendars
 - Unlimited Crop Categories
 - Unlimited Planting Schedules
 - Custom Crop Categories and Varieties
- ✓ **Seedtime Tasks** (unlimited access)
- ✓ **Seedtime Journal** (unlimited entries)
- ✓ **Seedtime Classroom** (masterclasses)
- ✓ **Seedtime Community** (private FB group)
- ✓ **Seedtime Store** (20% off seed packets)
- ✓ **Seedtime Layout** (*future release*)
- ✓ **Seedtime Weather** (*future release*)
- ✓ **Seedtime Inventory** (*future release*)
- ✓ **Seedtime Records** (*future release*)
- ✓ **Seedtime Analytics** (*future release*)

BONUS GIFT PACKAGE

- ✓ **GIFT 1: (\$150 value)** Five Years of Our Live Monthly Garden Meeting Recordings
- ✓ **GIFT 2: (\$95 value)** Your Best Garden Ever Challenge Recordings
- ✓ **GIFT 3: (\$95 value)** Winter Gardening Challenge Recordings

~~**\$4,800+**~~

3 payments of

\$197

OR

1 payment (save \$94)

\$497



Ready to get started?

Click the link on this page or go to:

seedtime.us/go

FREE GIVEAWAY



- Our “Winter L+R vs. Summer S+F” veggie formula to easily know which veggies grow best in the winter vs. the summer.
- The #1 critical factor for having a fresh harvest during the winter months.
- Example succession planting for a continual harvest of winter lettuce.
- Simple ways to protect your veggies during the winter without breaking your pocketbook.
- And more...

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Seedtime

Reviews 111 • Excellent



4.7 ⓘ

✓ VERIFIED COMPANY