

Literacy This Week



Yukon Literacy
Coalition

We are a society of people dedicated to improving the quality of life of all Yukoners. We do this by building the foundational skills required for lifelong learning; acknowledging that we are all adapting to an everchanging world.

Gardening Tips!

At long last, well about three weeks late anyway, spring is here!

All the gardeners, old and new, are chomping at their bits to get dirty. **Bart Bounds** is a local boreal gardener and owner of *Elemental Farm*, a certified organic market garden and *Worm's Eye View* a boreal gardening/farming consultation/design company. Both these businesses are focused on moving the Yukon towards a local food production system that provides nutritious, equitable and toxin free food produced in a way that sustains a healthy environment, society, and economy.

Here are a few things Bart suggests considering as our season begins:

Working saturated soil can cause compaction, destroy soil structure and negatively impact your soil biome by reducing air and water movement through the soil.

Be sure to wait for your soil to dry out before working it.

Carefully begin hardening off your cold tolerant crops like cabbage, kale, spinach, lettuce, chard, and scallions.

Consider using season extension techniques, such as low tunnels, floating row cover (FRC) or cold frames to get a jump on our short season.

Areas for later planting can be prewarmed with poly or FRC. This produces a flush of weeds that can be knocked down before planting.

This can considerably reduce weeding later in the season. Best results are with poly that is buried in or tightly sealed around edges. If soil is dry be sure to water thoroughly before placing covers on beds.

Organize, clean, repair, replace and sharpen your tools to begin with things in ship shape for the season. Yes, shovels should be sharpened!

Yukon Literacy Coalition

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