



Our local KNUJ Farmers Market in New Ulm is the place!

Choosing Plants for Your Worksite Garden

Gardening is a lot easier than most people realize – you just need to know what is most appropriate and manageable for the garden site. Here are a couple things to remember as your company begins to choose what will go into the garden:

- **Variety is good!** Don't be afraid to mix flowers with vegetables. Because flowers attract insects that kill potential pests and pollinate vegetables, this won't just boost the appearance, but will help the garden grow. Daisies, marigolds, and sunflowers are just a few of the flowers that work great with vegetables.
- **Different plants do well in different environments.** Since we live in a cooler location certain flowers and plants will have more success than others. Broccoli, lettuce, peppers, potatoes, spinach, and tomatoes are a few of the vegetables suggested for Minnesota gardens.
- Because employees have a limited amount of time to get away from their desk and tend to their plots, it may be a good idea to **first select plants that are easier to take care of and then select higher maintenance plants as employees become more experienced gardeners.**
- **Before you get too far into the planning process, check out some of the great online resources that can give you basic information on starting a worksite garden and picking the right plants:**
 - **Better Homes and Gardens:** www.bhg.com
 - **The Cook's Garden:** www.cooksgarden.com
 - **National Gardening Association:** www.garden.org
 - **University of Minnesota Extension:** www.extension.umn.edu/garden
- Once you have an idea of the types of plants you want to grow in the garden, **visit your local garden center**, where you not only can buy the crops, but also get advice and assistance from gardening experts. The next page has a list of garden centers/nurseries in your area.