



NYC Parks
GreenThumb

GreenThumb | City of New York Parks & Recreation
49 Chambers Street, Rm 1020, New York, New York 10007
Nancy Kohn Director

How to Build a Low Tunnel with Row Cover to Protect Plants from Frost and Winds

We're always talking about *extending your growing season* with floating row covers, low tunnels, and hoop houses. These all protect your plants from frost.

Today we'll give you **easy instructions on how to build a low tunnel** with PVC pipe and row cover.

Quick review of floating row cover for frost protection

Row covers are made of lightweight fabrics (that "float" on the top of your crops) and they allow sunlight, air, and water to pass through to your plants.

Low tunnels of floating row cover give easy access to your crops, while protecting your plants from frost

The support of the hoops keeps snowy row cover weight off your plants, and allows you to quickly lift the row cover for harvesting.



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SUPPLIES for a 4 x 8 raised bed

Item	Size	Quantity	Purpose
PVC Pipe	½ inch x 10ft PVC pipe	5	Framing of tunnel.
PVC Clamps	½ inch clamps	20	For securing PVC to wood of raised beds.
Decking screws	2 inch	50+	Attaching clamps to PVC and plastic to 1x4 wood.
1x4 wooden studs	1x4x8	2	For installing removal row cover.
Twine or rope	Standard roll	1	Securing short ends of low-tunnel.
Zip ties	Standard package	4	Securing PVC spine to PVC hoops.
Row Cover or Plastic Sheeting	10 x 100	1	Covering low-tunnel house.





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Step 1-Secure PVC to wood using 2 PVC clamps for each side.



Step 2- Repeat every 2ft securing 4 PVC for 4x8 raised bed.



Step 3-Secure top spine to frame of hoops with zip ties. Helps disperse snow.



Step 4-Roll row cover around 1x4. Fix 1x4 to long side of raised bed.



Step 5-On opposite end Roll row cover around 1x4 but do not fix to bed.



Step 6-Tie short ends of excess row cover with twine or rope.

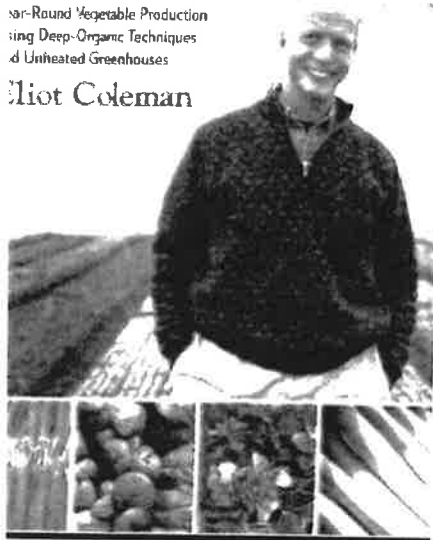


Crop	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Arugula								
Beet, 'Bull's Blood'								
Carrot								
Celery								
Chard								
Claytonia								
Endive, 'Bianca Riccia'								
Lettuce								
Mâche								
Mizuna								
Onion, green								
Pak Choi								
Parsley								
Radish								
Sorrel								
Spinach								
Tatsoi								
Turnip								

The Winter Harvest Handbook

Year-Round Vegetable Production Using Deep-Organic Techniques and Unheated Greenhouses

Eliot Coleman



Harvest Season of Cold-House Crops From October to May in Zone 5

Crop	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Arugula								
Beet, 'Bull's Blood'								
Carrot								
Celery								
Chard								
Chicory, green								
Claytonia								
Endive, 'Bianca Riccia'								
Leek								
Lettuce								
Mâche								
Mizuna								
Onion, green								
Pak Choi								
Parsley								
Radicchio								
Radish								
Sorrel								
Spinach								
Tatsoi								

USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map

The 2012 USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map is the standard by which gardeners and growers can determine which plants are most likely to thrive at a location. The map is based on the average annual minimum winter temperature, divided into 10-degree F zones.

For the first time, the map is available as an interactive GIS-based map, for which a broadband Internet connection is recommended, and as static images for those with slower Internet access. Users may also simply type in a ZIP Code and find the hardiness zone for that area.

No posters of the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map have been printed. But state, regional, and national images of the map can be downloaded and printed in a variety of sizes and resolutions.

