Asian and European Pears

Planting Specifications

- 12-15’ semi-dwarf
- E. Pear native to Eastern Europe and Central Asia, A. Pear native to East Asia
- Must have at least two different varieties for cross pollination.
- E. Pear Varieties: Harrow’s Delight, Moonglow, Summerrcisp, Sunrise, Blake’s Pride, Honey Sweet, Potomac, Harrow Sweet
- A. Pear Varieties: Shinsui, Shinseiki, Kosui, Chojuro, Yoинashi, Shinko, Korean Giant

Common Pests and Diseases
Other diseases or pests may be present, but these are the ones most common in St. Louis.

Codling Moth and Oriental Fruit Moth: Eat the fruit from the inside, small and gray/brown in color
Treatment: Bt inclusion in 4th holistic spray, Bt sprays, sunflower companion planting

Aphids: Widespread damage, small green insects
Treatment: Companion planting, insecticidal soap, hand pick and remove/crush

Fire Blight: Bacterial disease, identified by black curled leaves, flowers, and branches
Treatment: Removing diseased plant material, Monterey Complete Disease Control as a preventative

Timeline of Care

Spring Care

- Application of four holistic sprays (liquid fish, pure neem oil, effective microbes) every few weeks once leaves start emerging and ending once fruits have formed (Late February to Mid-May)
- Complete the big yearly pruning and remove any branches infected by fireblight prior to foliage appearing (Late February to Mid-March)
- Remove any tree wraps placed in winter (Early April)
- For the first three years, remove all fruitlets to prevent fruit production (Late April to Early May)
- After three years, thin the fruits so that there is only the two largest fruitlets per cluster (Prior to fourth holistic spray)

Summer Care

- Complete a second thinning of the fruitlets so that there is the best fruitlet per cluster, one every 5 inches (Mid-May to June)
- Summer prune your pear trees to increase sun penetration and improve color, ideally during a dry period (August)

Fall Care

- Harvest when fruits are ready! Pears will continue to ripen off of the tree, so harvest when the pear easily breaks off of the tree (August through November)
- While harvesting, remove any mummified fruits and dispose of outside of the orchard to prevent disease spread (September through November)
- Cut back or harvest allium companion plant (September through November)
- Remove or shred all fallen leaves to prevent diseases from spreading (Mid-October to November)
- Fifth holistic spray once all leaves have been disposed of (November)
- Install tree wraps to protect trees from rabbits and voles (Late November)
- Add a new layer of mulch to the base of the tree (November)

Ongoing Care

- During the first full growing season, water 5 gallons per plant per week, with the exception of weeks with substantial rain. After the first year, trees only need to be watered during droughts
- Weed the mulch ring
- Plant any desired companion plants to benefit the orchard ecosystem (Spring or Fall)
- Scout for pests and remove any fallen or diseased fruit

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Neem oil spray - Available for purchase from our Gateway Greening Store
Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt) - Available for purchase from our Gateway Greening Store
Holistic Sprays- Recipes and ingredients available to Giving Grove projects
Orchard Classes- Summer Pruning, Dormant Fruit Tree Pruning, Pest and Disease Management, and Harvest. Schedules available on our website and Facebook page
Companion plant recommendations- handout available on website