

# May Preview – Project TWH

May is lining up to be an interesting month at the Suburban Steader Homestead. In the May Preview of Project TWH, we'll talk about a lot of things that may seem unrelated. A few are pure homesteading activities and a few are more general approaches to the suburban homesteading lifestyle. It's an interesting mix of tasks that I think you'll really enjoy.

As usual, we'll be referencing *The Weekend Homesteader* throughout this month. In fact, our four main articles for the month will be centered around the four topics Anna Hess outlines for May:

- Plant Your Summer Garden
- Nutrition
- Mulch
- Teamwork

## Plant Your Summer Garden

- Goal: Plant a small garden
- Cost: \$0-20
- Time: 1-5hrs
- Difficulty: Easy
- Kid-Friendly: Yes

Finally! The planning in April is paying off and you're ready to put seeds and seedlings into the ground! In this post, we'll spend time talking about when to plant and what information to take into account when planning. We'll also discuss resources available to you which can help you time your plantings appropriately. Succession planting will be a topic we touch on as will how to plant. Finally, we'll spend a little time talking about maintaining the garden once you've got crop in the ground.



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## Nutrition

- Goal: Discover what types of food make your body healthy and happy
- Cost: \$0-5
- Time: 1-10hrs
- Difficulty: Easy
- Kid-Friendly: Maybe

You can't run a suburban homestead if you're not of sound body. That means that nutrition and physical fitness are important to us. With that fact in mind, we'll take a look at what is good nutrition and how do we acquire it. I'll spend a little time talking about how I honed in my nutrition a bit (spoiler: I'm not perfect, and you don't have to be) and I'll wrap up with a list of resources that I recommend you look into in order to make your own informed decisions.

## Mulch

- Goal: Mulch your garden for weed control and organic matter production

- Cost: \$0-100
- Time: 2-10hr
- Difficulty: Medium
- Kid-Friendly: Yes

Sick of weeding? Mulch is your solution. But there's more benefits than just reduced garden labor when it comes to mulch. I'll talk about the pros and cons of mulching and whether I believe it to be a solid tactic for your garden. We'll dig a little into the science of mulching but don't worry, you don't need a degree in chemistry or biology for this discussion. We'll finish the discussion by identifying different kinds of mulch, potential places to source them and how to apply them to your garden.

## Teamwork

- Goal: Find a person or group of people whose homesteading skills complement your own
- Cost: \$0
- Time: A lot or a little
- Difficulty: Medium to difficult
- Kid-Friendly: Maybe

While we aim for a self-sufficient, self-reliant life, suburban homesteaders aren't going to go it alone. Nor should they. Building community through teamwork is key to long-term survival. I'll spend some time talking about different roles within a team and how they might jive in a community setting. In the end, I'll wrap it up talking about how I'm using a community teamwork approach to build my suburban homestead.

## Conclusion

So there you have it, the May Preview of Project TWH. Sounds like it's going to be a busy month with a lot more hands-on

activities than April. I'm really looking forward to a lot of the topics coming up this month – I could spend hours talking about nutrition and teamwork as they both relate to big parts of my past. I'm also VERY excited to get my garden in the ground. I hope you sit back, enjoy a cup of coffee and join on our suburban homesteading journey in May.

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