October 16 is the begin Winter Gardening date in the greenhouse

Greenhouse plots will be available October 16th. Some may be available sooner as they are abandoned by Summer greenhouse gardeners. I have been gardening in the greenhouse the last two winters. I had great success last winter. From the experiences of the last two winters I think most of the negative issues have been identified and can be prevented in the future. If you are interested in greenhouse winter gardening, please contact Nancy (nbright@bendbroadband.com).

For winter greenhouse success gardeners needs to:

- Plant seeds as soon as possible. Newspaper made into paper pots works well for starting your winter garden plants. The paper pots allow transplanting without disturbing seedling roots. The SOURCE paper works the best. The ink on the paper does not seem to be a problem. I have tried unprinted newsprint and it tends to fall apart during transplanting thus disturbing the roots, slowing plant growth.

- Use only winter hardy lettuce seeds. The other lettuces die from the cold.
- To keep the plot soil temperature at 42-46 degrees, plots need to be prepared
    - Soil must be removed
    - Bottom half of plot filled with fresh horse manure [which will be procured for you]
    - Soil added back
- Watering is by hand—usually every 3 days. Winter gardeners cooperate, watering for each other so that people can travel.
- There are insulated surrounds available for plots which help retain the heat of the decomposing horse manure.

- A hardware cloth cover is recommended to keep mice and other rodents from harvesting the plants.

Winter Hardy Vegetables Known to be Successful in the Greenhouse:

- Leaf lettuces (winter hardy varieties only), cabbage, kale, collards, radicchio, rutabaga, spinach,
  Swiss chard, broccoli
- Green or bunching onions
- Japanese greens: mizuna, tatsoi, endive, bok choy, arugula, and mustards
- Starting with plants, most herbs grow well, with the exception of basil.
- Beets grow very slowly from seeds. Other root crops have not been successfully grown thus far.
- Pea pods for an early spring crop

OSU extension reports that vegetables with red coloring do the best in the cold.

The following seed companies have good selections of seeds for winter gardening. There are likely many other sources.

http://www.territorialseed.com/ and https://www.johnnyseeds.com