

# GREEN MANURE

This bed demonstrates plants used as **cover crops**, which are planted during or after growing and offer a variety of benefits including reducing erosion, increasing moisture retention, and improving soil structure and quality.

When these plants are integrated into the soil through mowing or tilling, they become “green manure” by providing nutrients and organic matter.

## LEGUMES



Legumes like field peas (above) enrich the soil with usable nitrogen, an essential plant nutrient. Flowers are edible and provide nectar for bees.

## GRASSES



Growing legumes and grasses together as cover crops is beneficial because grasses accumulate nitrogen from the peas and provide peas with structural support (oats shown above).

**The cover crop you choose depends on what your soil needs.**