

## Soil Health Cover Crop for Raised Beds

The Madison County Conservation District is providing a **free soil health cover crop mixture** for raised bed gardens in Madison County. The seed packet contains Austrian Winter Pea, Crimson Clover, Daikon Radish, and Turnips.

Diverse (multi species) cover crops are more effective in improving soil health or the capacity of the soil to function. Benefits include soil protection from erosion with the legumes (Winter Pea and Crimson Clover) fixing nitrogen in the soil. The deep-rooted tubular plants (Daikon Radish and Turnips) break up the soil improving soil structure and drainage. Use of this mixture will increase activity of earth worms and other organisms which improve soil health and productivity. Seeding should be completed in **September**, allowing the cover crop good growth before cold weather.

The cover crop mixture is provided compliments of the **Madison County Conservation District** and packaged and distributed by the **Berea Urban Farm through** a cooperative effort. Seed can be picked up beginning Monday, August 30 at the Urban Farm Office at 107 Grant Street in Berea. Seeding instructions are included with the seed packet. For more information contact Berea Urban Farm at 859-985-1689 or [info@sustainableberea.org](mailto:info@sustainableberea.org). Seed now for better vegetable production in 2022!