**Weeds**

* Prevent weeds: planting density, appropriate feeding and watering, and using mulches can help prevent weeds.
  + *Corn gluten* is an organic herbicide that stops seeds from germinating.
* Control weeds: physical removal – pulling by hand, hoeing, cultivating.
  + Organic contact herbicides use a combination of *citric acid* and *plant oils* such as clove oil.

**Diseases**

* Prevent diseases: avoid monoculture, and use appropriate plant care – particularly watering. Things that stress a plant, such as cold damage, physical injury, and dehydration often make it more susceptible. Plant resistant plants or varieties, where possible. Control weeds to reduce spores and overall disease pressure.
* Control diseases: try to control localized infections through pruning.
  + Organic fungicides containing *copper* or *sulfur* can be used to prevent or to treat diseases, but often have seasonal limitations. Biological fungicides usually use a bacterium, such as *Baccilus utilis* or *Baccilus subtilis*; they aren’t strong controls nor great preventatives, but can be used in growing and production seasons. *Neem* and *potassium bicarbonate* products provide good control of a relatively small number of diseases, particularly powdery mildew.

**Bugs**

* Prevent bug problems: avoid monoculture, and reduce plant stress to increase resistance. In some cases, protective covers may be used. Specific individual pests may have additional prevention options to disrupt their lifecycles. Control weeds to reduce pest habitat.
* Control bugs: Physical removal is sometimes practical for slow moving or stationary bugs. Predatory insects and other organisms – such as ladybugs and beneficial nematodes – are effective on certain pests.
  + Many organic insecticides are available. *Horticultural spray oil* which may also be listed as dormant spray oil or summer spray oil, provide both preventive and treatment control for certain insects. *Insecticidal soap* (potassium salt of fatty acids) and *diatomaceous earth* control softer bodied insects like aphids pretty well. *Neem* and *pyrethrin* work on a very broad range of bugs. *Spinosad* is a very effective organic insecticide on a fairly large range of insects, but is not universal. The biological insecticide *Baccilus thuringensis* (BT) is widely used to control the larval stage of some bugs, such as caterpillars, codling moths, fungus gnats, and mosquitos.

**Other pests**

* Slugs and snails: prevent with good watering practices and sun and air circulation. Copper tape barriers and hazelnut shells (or similar sharp mulches) can be effective in some situations. Control with *diatomaceous earth* or with products containing *iron phosphate.*
* Larger critters: prevent with barriers such as chicken wire or hardware cloth, or with nets and fences. Repellents containing *dried blood* are listed as organic.