

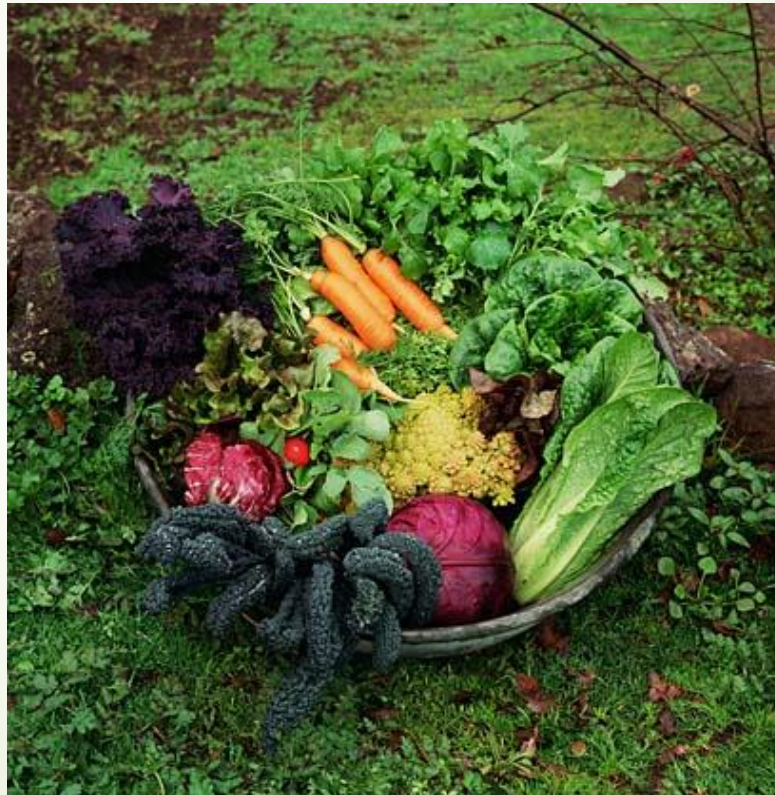
# How to Start a Vegetable Garden

Carlos Robles

Flora Horticultural Services LLC



Could this be your harvest?



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# Types of Growing System

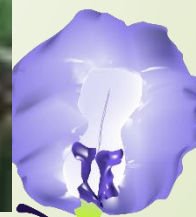
- Containers
- Raised Beds/Box Garden
- Terraces
- Conventional in ground garden







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# Locating your garden

- Area that get 6-8 hours of sun
  - Preferably morning sun
- Away from high traffic areas
- Near a water source





# Design Your Garden On Paper

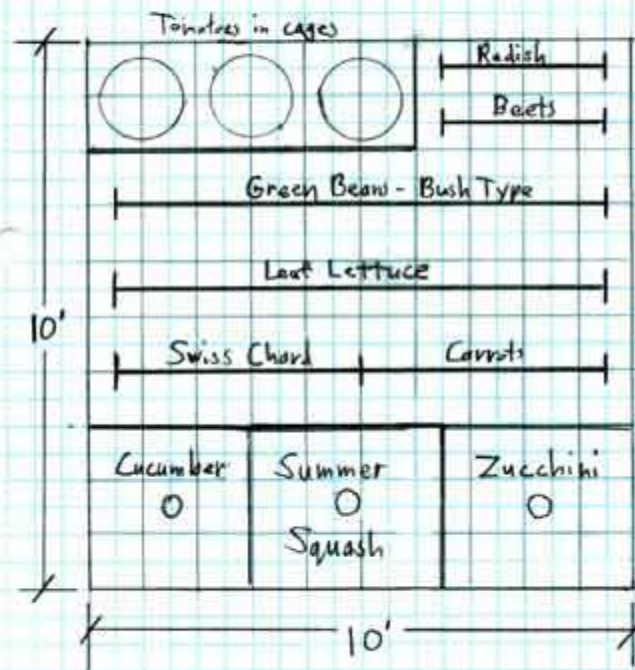
- ➡ Make a sketch of your garden
- ➡ Include such items as irrigation lines, walkways, dimensions, growing areas etc.





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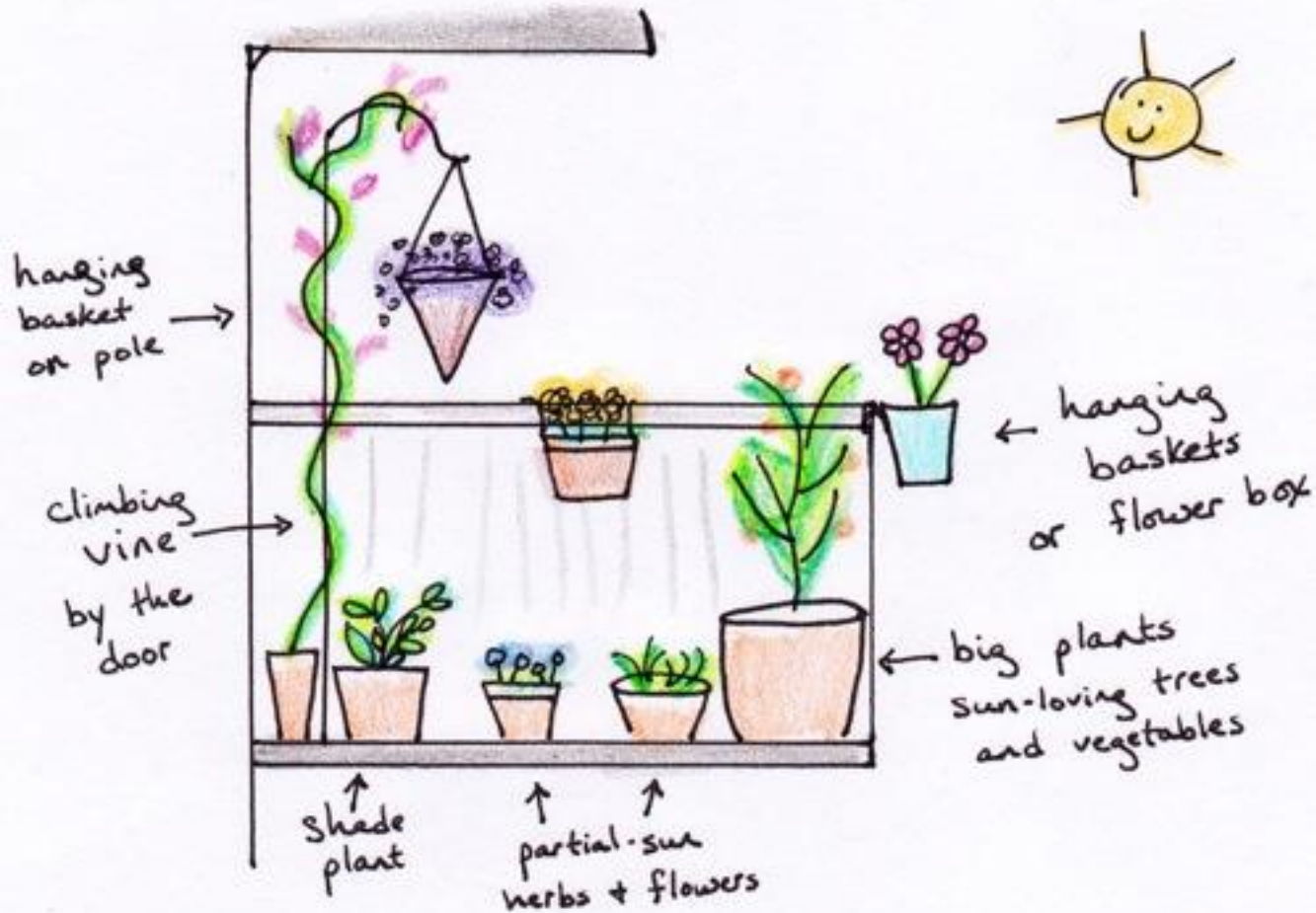
## Mid size Garden Layout (one square = 6")



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## Balcony side view



# Soils

- Have your soil tested
- Prepare your growing medium in advance
- For containers and raised bed you can customize the soil.
- Add manures, compost, and other organic matter annually to improve soil quality.

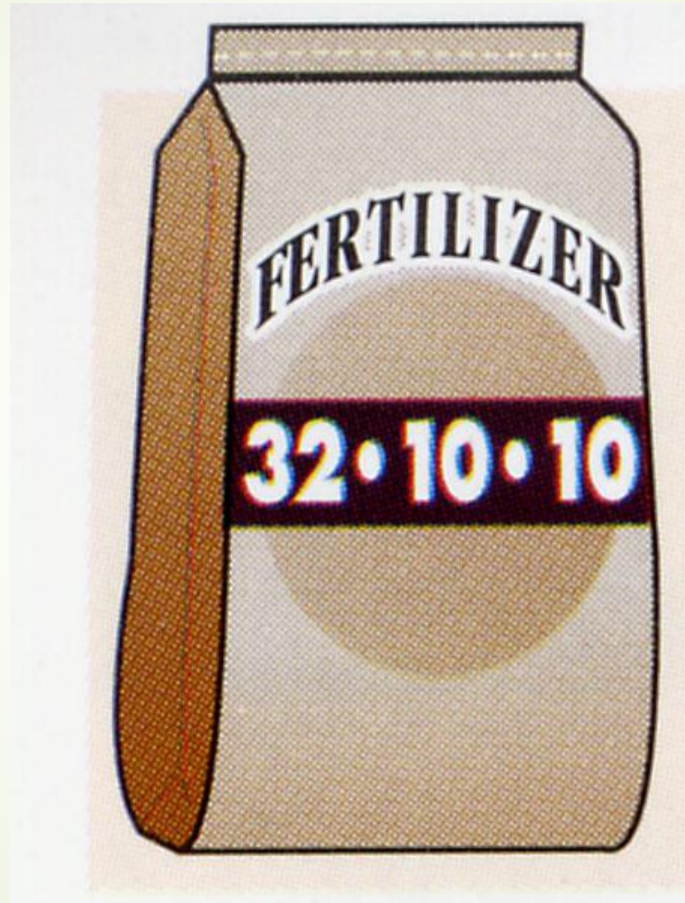


# Soil Fertility-Basic Fertilizer

➡ Nitrogen (N) Phosphorus (P) Potassium(K)

Plus trace elements  
boron, iron, zinc,  
manganese, sulphur etc.









# Selecting seeds and plants

- Purchase fresh seed
- Store seeds in a cool
- Purchase seedlings that are 4-5 weeks old
- Purchase seedlings that are green and vigorous

# Selecting seeds and plants

- Some vegetables grow better depending on the season.
- Late October through early March is optimum
- High temperature will affect flowering





# Types of Vegetables

broccoli beans, beets, corn, cabbage, celery, carrots, cauliflower, eggplants, kohlrabi, collard greens pak choi, warm season leaf lettuce, kale, tomatoes, sweet, hot and seasoning pepper, butternut, zucchini, and yellow squash, sweet potatoes, cucumbers, turnips, radishes, okra, onions, chinese cabbage.....



# Pest Control

- Identify pests
- Select appropriate controls
  - Pesticides: Synthetic, Natural, or combination
  - Traps, lures, baits,
- Scout for pests often
- Integrated Pest Management





# Irrigation and Moisture Retention

- Drip Irrigation: Most efficient
  - Use a timer for even more efficiency
- Use mulch to retain moisture and reduce weeds. ie. wood chips, grass, weed barriers, news papers, straw
- Soil moisture should be consistent



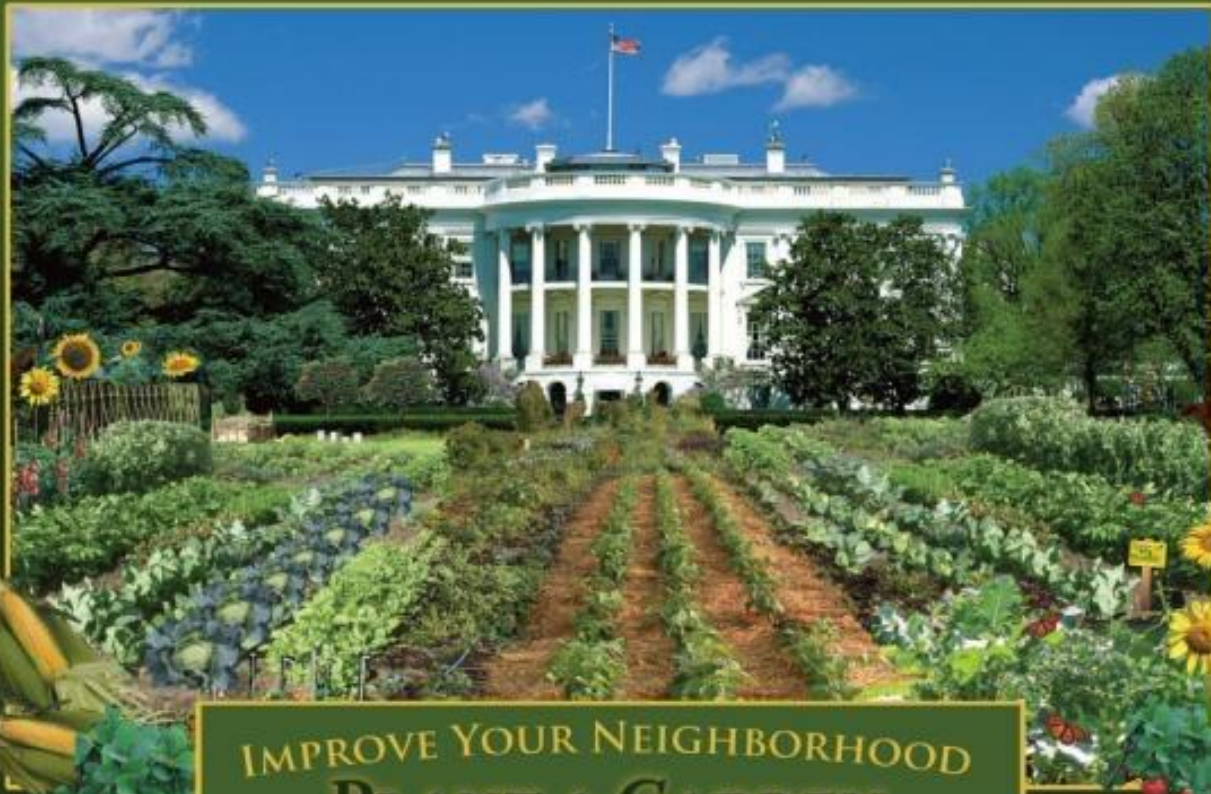
# Traditional ways of watering plants





# Drip Irrigation





IMPROVE YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD  
PLANT A GARDEN



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