



Container Gardening for Everyone

Presenters

Jack Systma – Hawthorne Community Gardener and
Master Gardener

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Commission/Green Team - Chair

Container Gardening - Top Tips for Success



Select Proper Variety

Vegetables – beets, carrots, cucumbers, lettuce, peppers, radishes, cherry tomatoes

Herbs – sweet basil, chives, dill, parsley, cilantro, thyme



Select any Container – recycled milk jug or carton, 5 gallon pail, garbage container,

Bottom of container – drill 1/4 inch holes for water drainage

Some stones/rocks as the first layer



Soil Material

Use a mix of compost for soil if possible

Potting mix from a garden store

Use of dirt/soil from yard, recommended to add peat moss



Locations – patios, window sills, decks, and any place outside

Fruits/Vegetables need 8 hours of sun

Root Vegetables need 6 hours of sun

Leafy Vegetables need 4 hours of sun



Daily water

Container Gardening



Tomatoes



Peppers

Container Garden Chart

Plant	Light Needed	Min. Container Size*	Number of Plants**	Space Between Plants
Argula	Full to part sun	1/2 gallon	3-5 plants	3-4 inches
Bachelor Buttons	Full sun	1-2 quart	3-5 plants	3-4 inches
Beans, Bush	Full sun	2 gallons	3 plants	4-6 inches
Beans, Pole	Full sun	5 gallons	3 plants	2-4 inches
Basil	Full sun	1 quart	1 plant	
Broccoli	Full sun	5 gallons	1-2 plants	12-18 inches
Calendula	Full sun	1-2 quart	3-5 plants	3-4 inches
Cantaloupe	Full sun	5 gallons	1 plant	
Carrots	Full to part sun	1-5 gallons	8-10 plants per gallon	2-3 inches
Cabbage	Full to part sun	5-15 gallons	1 plant per 5 gallons	12-18 inches
Chard, Swiss	Full to part sun	1 gallon	4-5 plants	4-6 inches
Chard, Rainbow Mix	Full to part sun	1 gallon	4-5 plants	4-6 inches
Chives	Full sun	1 quart	3 plants	
Cilantro	Full sun	1-5 gallons	1 plant per gallon	8-12 inches
Collards	Full sun	1-5 gallons	3 plants per gallon	5-7 inches
Cucumbers	Full sun	3-5 gallons	3 plants	Hill plants in middle
Cucumbers, bush	Full sun	3-5 gallons	1 plant	
Dianthus	Full sun	1-2 quart	3-5 plants	3-4 inches
Dill	Full sun	1-5 gallons	10-12 plants per gallon	8-12 inches
Eggplant	Full sun	2-5 gallons	3 plants	
Hyssop	Full sun	0.5-1 gallon	1 plant	
Kale	Full to part sun	2-5 gallons	3 plants	10-15 inches
Lettuce, leaf	Full to Part Sun	0.5-5 gallons	10-12 plants per gallon	2-3 inches
Marigold	Full sun	1-2 quarts	3-5 plants	3-4 inches
Nasturtium	Full to part sun	1-2 quarts	3-5 plants	3-4 inches
Onions	Full to part sun	2-5 gallons	3-5 mature plants	Thin to 4-5 inch
Onions, green	Full to part sun	1 gallon	10-12 plants	2-3 inches
Oregano	Full sun	1 gallons	1 plant	
Pansy	Part shade	1-2 quarts	3-6 plants	3-4 inches
Parsley	Full to part sun	1-2 quarts	1 plant	
Peas	Full to part sun	2-5 gallons	3-6 plant	3-4 inches
Peas, snow	Full to part sun	2-5 gallons	3-6 plants	3-4 inches
Peppers, bell	Full sun	2-5 gallons	1 plant	
Peppers, hot	Full sun	2-5 gallons	1 plant	
Pepper, wax	Full sun	2-5 gallons	1 plant	
Pumpkin	Full sun	1 gallon	1 plant	
Radicchio	Full to part sun	1 gallon	3 plant	
Sage	Full sun	1 gallon	1 plant	
Spearmint	Full to part sun	1-2 quarts	3-5 plants	3-4 inches
Squash	Full sun	5 gallons	1 plant	
Squash, summer	Full sun	5 gallons	1 plant	
Thyme	Full sun	1-2 quarts	1 plant	
Tomato	Full sun	5 gallons	1 plant	
Tomato, cherry	Full sun	2 gallons	1 plant	
Watermelon, sugar	Full sun	5 gallons	1 plant	
Zucchini	Full sun	5 gallons	1 plant	

Container Gardening



Source: You Tube Video – American Heart Association

The Tiniest Seeds: A Gardening Poem

By: Celina Chase

Life begins with the tiniest seeds.
The earth, the sun and the sky fill their needs.

For soil and sunshine and rain seem to know,
What it takes for a vegetable garden to grow.

The magic that happens when new seedlings sprout,
Should not be ignored and can't be done without.

For this magic turns seeds into plants with rich food,
To be gently harvested for the greater good,

Of nourishing man, woman, child and mother,
So this generation may precede another.

Take the Green Team Challenge

- Each person grows a vegetable or herb in a container
- Take photos of the growing of the seed or plant
- Send photos to Hawthorne Environmental Commission/Green Team email at HawthorneEC@gmail.com
- Prizes will be awarded at the end of the Season – September 2020
 - Most Unusual Plant
 - Most bountiful vegetables/herbs (weight (lbs.) or # of quantities)