

SUMMER WATERING AND HARVESTING



Thank you for signing up to water the garden this summer!

Please follow these instructions for tending and watering the garden:



1. Please visit the garden on your designated watering days . If you cannot make it to the garden on your designated days, please text one of the garden team leaders listed below.
2. To determine if the beds need to be watered, stick half of your index finger in the soil at several spots in each bed. If the soil at the tip of your finger feels dry, then please water the beds. If it is wet, then there's no need to water (the soil may still be wet from a recent rain). Obviously, if some plants are wilting, please water them. Please remember to check/water the corn, sunflowers and gourds growing along the chain link fence.
3. You will need to turn on the water using the key located in the shed. Open the shed lock using the code _____. The numbers need to line up with the line at the top of the lock. Enter the shed, face the doors, and look up and to the left to find the key to turn on the water. Take the key to the water spigot located on the side of the building near the back doors. The key fits into the recessed lock—turn the key to the left until you hear the water enter the hose. The hose extends around the building to a hose winder box next to the compost bin. Pull the hose out of the box all the way to be able to water the plants in the beds.
4. You may water the plants using the watering wand and/or using the watering cans located in the shed. Watering with your child is a great opportunity to talk about plant parts and their jobs. Ask your child what part of the plant brings wa-

- ter into the plant (the roots). Ask where the roots are located (underground). Then ask where we should water each plant (at the base near the soil). Watering the plants deeply at the base (rather than giving them a sprinkle all over the plant) will ensure they grow deep roots and will protect the leaves from getting diseases. You can try counting to 5 or 10 as you water the base of each plant.
5. When you're finished watering all plants, please turn off the water by turning the key all the way to the right until it stops turning, spray the remaining water out of the hose, and then roll up the hose in the hose winder. Please put the key back on the hook in the shed, put away watering cans, lock the shed, and jumble up the lock numbers.
6. If you notice plants that look diseased, need support, or otherwise need some TLC please note that on the garden log located in the shed and text a garden leader. **Please note on the garden log that you watered on your day.** Please pull any weeds in the beds or planting areas.
7. Please harvest what is ripe on your watering day and share with your family, neighbors or a local organization. **Weigh your produce using the hanging scale and a bucket that are located in the shed (be sure to subtract the weight of the bucket). Record the weight in the log book.** Remember, someone will be coming to water in a few days, so leave fruit/veggies for them that are not yet quite ripe, rather than harvesting them yourself. If you are not sure how to harvest the plants, please text one of the garden leaders. THANK YOU!!!!



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