

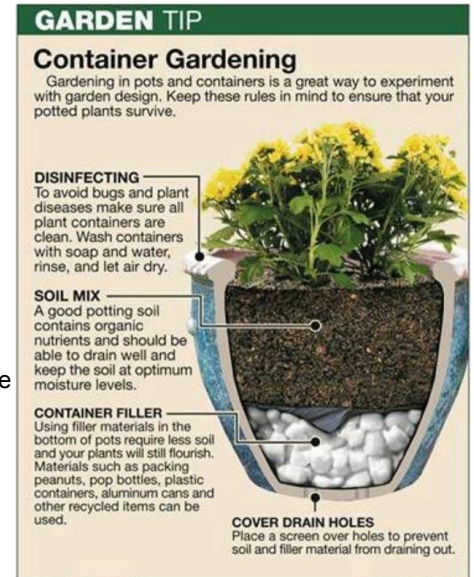


CONTAINER GARDENING WORKSHOP AGENDA

Time: 1 hour

Materials:

- + Appropriate Materials for Demo
 - + Info on available products, locations, pricing
 - + gravel/stones
 - + Potting soil
 - + Various size/type containers
 - + Pictures from home patio
- + Handouts on:
 - + Infographics **w/ space for Notes**
- 1. Introductions
- 2. Meditation on Urban Space Generating Food - how much food can be produced above ground
- 3. Considerations before you start
 - a. Ask participants what they want to grow in their container
- 4. Size
 - a. Remember you not only need room for the plants' roots but also the drainage
 - b. (handout diagram)
 - c. Also factor in space for the dish below - bottom watering saves time and keeps nutrients in the soil. Over time I have been finding or buying deeper and deeper dishes for my pots to sit in so that I don't need to water at the top.
 - d. Watering at the top can wash soil away from the roots
 - e. ***Remember to empty the dishes under your pots after you let the plant drink it up for at least 3 hours AND after heavy rains - Mosquitos are a thing***
- 5. Pot Type
 - a. Color matters - darker colors attract more light, heating the soil!
 - b. Terracotta is beautiful but it dries out faster
 - c. Wood is great, but make sure it is natural wood and will not leach chemicals
 - d. I usually use plastic to save energy and time
- 6. Soil
 - a. Soil in a pot can compact and make it hard for plants roots to absorb nutrients - you need lighter
- 7. Plant Selection
 - a. Plant needs:
 - i. Root crops like carrots and radishes need nice deep containers
 - ii. Greens like lettuce and arugula do not mind shallower containers
 - iii. Peppers and kale plants want 2 gallon containers or more
 - iv. Tomatoes, potatoes, cucumbers and squash needs big containers - they are heavy feeders - mine live in 5 gallon buckets I asked for from grocery store
- 8. Maximizing Watering
 - a. plate/tray underneath + benefits of bottom watering



CONTAINER GARDENING WORKSHOP WITH GVI

Considerations before you start:

1. Sun
2. Size/Weight of Container
3. Your Time
4. Your Dreams

Notes:

Resources:

Kidsgardening.org
Homesteading.com
Rodalesorganiclife.com
Morningchores.com
Gardeners.com
 Ask Friends & Family
 Use upcycled containers
 Come back to the farm!
 Treeland
 Ganim's Garden Center

GARDEN TIP

Container Gardening

Gardening in pots and containers is a great way to experiment with garden design. Keep these rules in mind to ensure that your potted plants survive.

DISINFECTING

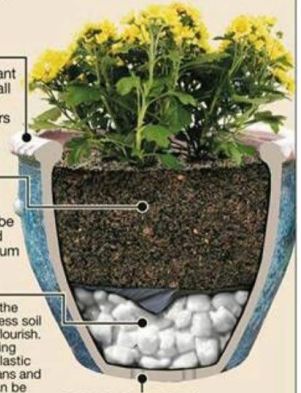
To avoid bugs and plant diseases make sure all plant containers are clean. Wash containers with soap and water, rinse, and let air dry.

SOIL MIX

A good potting soil contains organic nutrients and should be able to drain well and keep the soil at optimum moisture levels.

CONTAINER FILLER

Using filler materials in the bottom of pots require less soil and your plants will still flourish. Materials such as packing peanuts, pop bottles, plastic containers, aluminum cans and other recycled items can be used.



COVER DRAIN HOLES
Place a screen over holes to prevent soil and filler material from draining out.

Size, Type, & Soil Considerations >>>

Plants that grow well in containers:

Tomatoes
 Potatoes
 Cucumbers
 Green Beans
 Lettuce
 Turnips
 Carrots
 Peppers
 Eggplants
 Green Onions
 Herbs
 Strawberries
 Squash
 Radishes
 Mustards
 Spinach

Notes:

Choosing a Container

In general, plants aren't affected by container choice.



Should be large enough to hold the plant and have drainage holes

Containers to avoid:



Terra-cotta

Porous nature of pots means more attention to watering



Dark color

Absorbs heat, making the soil too warm for some plants



Treated wood

May contain chemical compounds that could be absorbed by plants

Soil

Look for a soil mix designed for outdoor container gardens.

Make your own by mixing equal parts:



Peat moss



Potting soil



Vermiculite, perlite, or clean sand

	<p>Kidsgardening.org Homesteading.com Rodalesorganiclife.com Morningchores.com Gardeners.com Ask Friends & Family Use upcycled containers Come back to the farm! Treeland Ganim's Garden Center</p>
<p>Resources :</p>	

