

Spring 2013
Children's Vegetable Garden Program
February 23, 2013

Agenda 2: Gardening Session #2 for spring 2013

Instructors

*Please go over the Check Box with **all** children (together).*

Check Box

Is everyone receiving the weekly E-mail agenda? If not, please inform your Section Leader.

Is everyone reading the weekly E-mail agenda before coming to garden on Saturday?

Was everyone on time this morning? Did everyone signed in this morning?

Has everyone started a gardening folder and journal?

Who's gardening at their home this spring?

Has every child completed a Pre-evaluation form and turn in? If not, inform your Section Leader.

Before your Section leaves today, you need to come up with a unique Team name and turn it in to Miss Gina. No Section will have the same name.



Instructions to Children

Please go over the Check Box

Does your plot look as good as or better than the **Example Plot**? Did everyone study the **Example Plot** before planting last week? Is your entire plot nice and leveled? Are your plants nice and straight and spaced out correctly in comparison to the **Example Plot**? How about comparing plots in a Section?

Do not walk in or on any of the beds. Why are there large footprints in the plots? It's very hard to replace irrigation lines and broken boards. If there are any issues or concerns, please notify Miss Gina.

Discard all rocks, large debris, weeds in and around your plot and sections walkways. Remember, we are not tilling or digging deep into the soil. Plots should look nice and leveled with no craters.

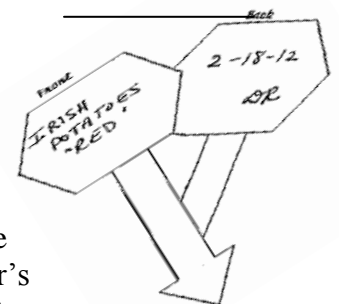
- Flag any fire ant mounds.
- Pick up debris in-and-around your section and walkways. This includes any weeds, rocks or trash. Throw material away in assigned trash cans. **Note:** There are many trashcans available so there is no need to fill up a trashcan all the way to the top making it weigh 300 pounds?



- DO NOT PUT ANYTHING IN THE COMPOST BINS.
- Evenly apply a total of one cup of natural derived granulated fertilizer on the out skirts of all the “Green appearing plants” that were planted last week. Take caution in applying the fertilizer on the leaves or too close to the crowns of the plants.
- Evenly apply a half of cup of granulate fertilizer throughout the area between the cucumber trellis and the first tomato cage. Level and rake plot area to scratch the existing fertilizer in.
- When you have returned the bag of fertilizer to the middle shed, please close the bag tightly.
- **If you did not do this last week.** Cover the inside of both tomato cages with 2 inches of finished compost. Try not to remove the cages. The compost is located at the center of the garden area (Special Section Area). Make sure that all cages are nice and straight within the Section.
- Use caution when using the wheel barrows around the wood and irrigation lines.

Let's check on last week's plantings

□ **Irish potatoes ‘White Kennebec’:** Again, does your area look like the example plot? Some tubers were visible last Sunday? **If you did not do this last week,** place a thin layer of compost down the middle of your Irish potato planting. Does your planting have one, not ten, identification tag in this planted area? Please don't be wasteful. The tag should have the name of the plant as well as a date and the gardener's initials. See example: (Front) Irish potatoes white and (Back) 2/16/13 DR.



- **Broccoli Transplants ‘Green Magic’:** Are your plants nice and straight? If not, use a bamboo support stake as well as a little soil on the stem (be careful). Do any plants need replacement? Check with Miss Gina on replacements (last chance). Does your planting have **one** identification tag in this planted area?
- **Head Cabbage ‘Cheers’:** Are your plants nice and straight? If not, use a bamboo support stake as well as a little soil on the stem (be careful). Do any of your plants need replacement? Check with Miss Gina on replacements (last chance). Does your planting have **one** identification tag in this planted area?
- **White Onion sets:** Section Leaders: why are so many plots spaced out so differently? Are your plants nice and straight? If not, use a little soil on the stem (be careful). Do any of your plants need replacement? Check with Miss Gina on replacements (last chance). Does your

planting have **one** identification tag in this planted area?

□ **Yellow Onion sets:** Section Leaders: why are so many plots spaced out so differently? Are your plants nice and straight? If not, use a little soil on the stem (be careful). Do any of your plants need replacement? Check with Miss Gina on replacements (last chance). Does your planting have **one** identification tag in this planted area?

Other Plot Chores

□ Locate the cucumber trellis in your plot. Turn it the same direction as the **Example Plot** (straight down the middle).

□ Plant one Orion Fennel (Finocchio) dead center between the cucumber trellis and the first tomato cage. Handle plant with much care and plant level with the soil line. Tamp plant lightly in. Place one identification tag (may already have a picture tag). Thoroughly water your plant with the water can.

□ **Starter Solution:** Fertilize all of today's and last week's "Green appearing" vegetable plants with a quarter of a gallon of Hasta-Gro starter mix. Due to the weight of the water can (2 gals), Instructors will mix 1 oz. of Hasta-Gro with half of the water can, about 1 gallon of water (not full water can). Each plot today will only need a quarter bucket of mixed liquid fertilizer. This means that half a water can of mixed fertilizer should do four plots. Do not let any of the fertilizer get on the leaves, just on the soil around the plants.

Group Planting Area

We will plant Funks G-90 Sweet Corn today
'S' stands for Section

This area is located in the middle of the garden and behind section 7 plots. The area is designated as S1-S9 in line with your Section. Do you know your Section number? What is the purpose of this area? This is a **team effort** for each section as a **group working together** not as individuals. Be careful in walking in-and-around this area and not on the beds.

□ Discard all rocks, large debris, weeds in-and-around your plot and sections walkways. Plots should look nice and leveled.

□ A light raking of the aisle walk-ways may be needed too. Place any excess debris in the Group Planting Area of Section's 6-9.

□ Do not plant the seed too deep. Miss Gina will proportion the seeds out. All extra seed need to be turned in at the end to be used as replacement seed. Do not get any unused seed dirty or wet.



□ **S1 – S5 Read and understand carefully:** Start 18 inches away from the end of Section 7 plot into your section to plant the first seeds. Use the white divider as a guideline. Fertilize your entire section with four cups of granulated fertilizer. Lightly scratch the fertilizer in and level out the entire area. We want to plant two rows of sweet corn. Each row should be spaced 12 inches from the center of your section, leaving about 6 inches from each row to the tip of the section (sections are about 36 inches wide). Each seed should be planted 3/4 inch deep and spaced 4 inches apart. Tamp soil in lightly with a grubbing hole. Leave 6 inches of empty space to the very back of your section. Thoroughly water the entire area in. Place one identification tag in your section.

□ **S6 – S9 Read and understand carefully:** These sections are also responsible in planting the four beds directly in front of theirs with one extra per section. Make sure that your section's irrigation lines are center and are pinned down (pins on large fence line). Fertilize the middle of each bed with four cups of natural derived organic fertilizer. Lightly scratch the fertilizer in and level out the entire area. We want to plant two rows of sweet corn. Measure the top width of each individual plot. We want each of the two rows equally spaced out from the center of the irrigation line. Leave about 2 inches on each row to the tip of the outside plot and do not plant from the foot at both ends. Each seed should be planted 3/4 inch deep and spaced 4 inches apart. Tamp soil in lightly with a grubbing hole. Thoroughly water the entire area in. Place one identification tag in your section

Water Management

□ Be very observant in how your plot and section drains. A grubbing hole or a rod may be needed if water is puddling up in your plot. Walkways may need some trenching to move the water out of your plot.

□ Become familiar with the irrigation system. Why are many irrigation lines clogged up? Instructors: show the children how to unclog them with a paperclip. Without getting anyone wet, water planting area with low pressure for about **10 to 15 minutes**.

□ **Do not flood plots on walk-ways. If the plots start flooding, let them drain a little, then proceed in watering again. DO NOT RELY ON THE SYSTEM TO WATER NEWLY PLANTED TRANSPLANTS.**

Insect Control



Cabbage looper

□ After all plants are *watered correctly*, Instructor's will mix Bt (Javelin) at a rate of half the small measuring device in the bag per **two** gallons of water. Drench the center of all **cabbage, and broccoli plants with this solution**. Hopefully, this will help prevent damage from cabbage loopers/caterpillars. Exam the backside of the plants and remove any small worms or eggs first?

“Special Projects for Garden”

Everyone needs to help with this.

This is everyone’s garden.

- Sections 6-9 will be planting an extra row of sweet corn.
- Section 5: Water all parameter beds and remove any unsightly leaves and weeds.
- Section 4: Help with spreading mulch.
- Section 3: Sweep main walk and outside back entrance gate.
- Section 2: Cleanout tool sheds. No tools should be returned dirty?????
- Section 1: Clean in and around sink real good.

*If you need something to do.....
help with the mulch party and/or
spread the extra remaining compost
throughout the long bed on the fence.*

- Are you completely finished? Has your Instructor or Garden Mentor walked your plot and section? Does everything look good and clean? No weeds, no trash, no rocks, etc. All plants watered? Are all your tools placed in tool shed nice and neat? What did you learn today? What time are you supposed to be here next week?
- How’s your homework coming?** Everyone should know what they are planting this season? Go to the produce section this week at your favorite grocery store and look what the farmer is shipping to market. Look at what the vegetables cost. Start researching on how to prepare these vegetables.

INSTRUCTORS: Make sure **all** volunteers and children sign-in and out every week and check with Miss Gina before you leave.

Thanks Everyone! It’s going to be a great spring.

David Rodriguez

