

A SERVICE PROJECT OF THE CHURCHILL AREA ECOLOGY COMMITTEE - 1975
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A SMALL VEGETABLE GARDEN

6' x 6'

First: Select the vegetables your family loves to eat.

Second: Prepare the soil. Spading or roto-tilling may be done in late fall or winter. Then with freezing and thawing you need only rake it in the spring to loosen the top layer. A wire fence will protect the garden from dog and rabbit damage if these animals are a problem in your area.

Suggestions for growing some popular vegetables:

TOMATOES - two plants are sufficient for a family of 2 or 3. If you start them from seed the following are excellent: Morston Hybrid (Harris Co.), Burpee Hybrid, Jet Star, Supersonic. If buying plants look for Verticillium wilt-resistant types. Tomatoes need 6 hours or more of sun each day. Dig deep, wide holes; place sand, wet peat moss at bottom of holes, water with soluble plant food such as Rapid-gro to prevent shock. If the plant is in any type of peat pot, peel this off gently and plant immediately (May 20 - 30 is a good time to put in tomatoes). Fill in with compost or good soil to above the first leaves (in other words plant it deeper than it was in the pot. Fertilize every 4 weeks until the end of August. Tomatoes need lots of water. Mulch with straw at first and later with grass clippings. Stake tomatoes with tall, sturdy poles, and tie plants to stake with old nylon stockings.

PEPPERS - be certain to buy seed or plants labelled SWEET PEPPER. Start seeds around April 1, but do not set plants into garden until all danger of frost is past and temperatures average 65° - 80°F. Plant peppers later than tomatoes, and not before May 31. Peppers need a light, sandy soil and like wood ashes (potash). Do not plant peppers near beans or use any nicotine-containing products near them. Space plants 12" apart, plant deeper than in pot, water well, and fertilize with Rapid-gro after well established. Peppers are related to tomatoes and need similar light and growing conditions. Harvest fruits green or let them turn red.

ONION SETS - can be planted around perimeter of garden very early (March 1) and then pulled as they mature. Need fertilizer if soil is poor. Use some for green onions to thin the rows and allow rest to grow into full-size bulbs (harvest when leaves turn yellow in fall).

LETTUCE - start from seed in flats, transplant to individual cartons, cups or pots, and set out after April 18. May need to be covered a couple of times during frosty nights, but they like to establish their roots before it gets hot. Bibb, Buttercrunch, Summer Bibb are excellent head formers. Oak Leaf, Black-seeded Simpson are good as loose leaf lettuce. Place lettuce close to tomatoes and it will be harvested before tomatoes get too tall.

BEANS - excellent from the garden. Seed rows 16 - 18" apart. Burpee Tender-pod is recommended.

BROCCOLI - 2 plants, take a lot of room but produce all summer. Take center out first and then side shoots will appear until frost. Needs fertilizer.

CABBAGE - takes room; heavy feeder. Early cabbage can be harvested by July 4 if planted around April 18.

BEETS - need a very small row; do not require fertilizer.

CARROTS - need lots of sand unless your soil is soft and deep. Burpee Short 'n Sweet is successful in shallow, heavier soils.

GARDEN CRESS - excellent to put on top of salads; will grow under almost any conditions; can be cut again and again. Burpee Curlycress is excellent. Sow seed generously in a short row.

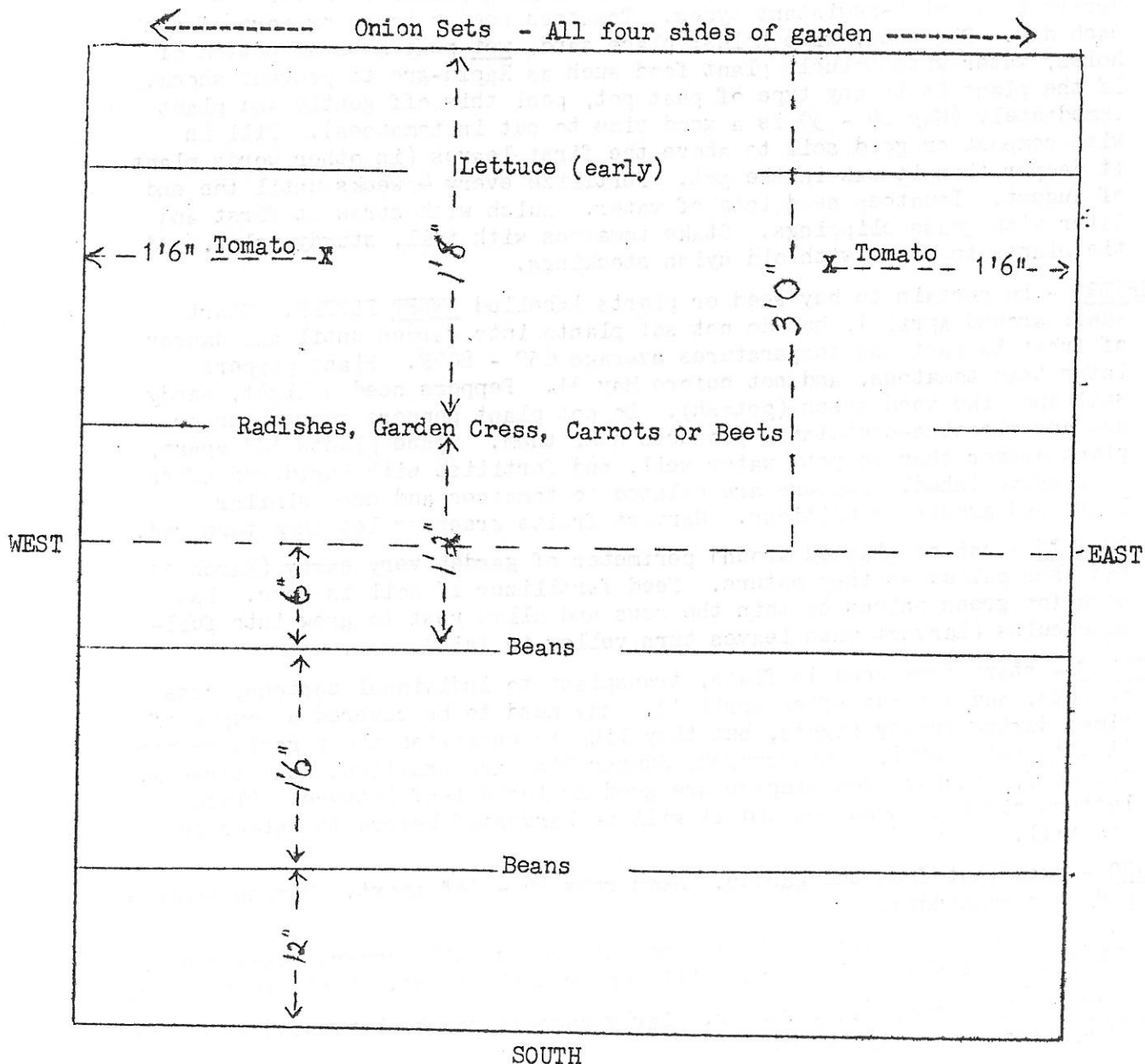
RADISHES - need lots of sand, not much fertilizer - otherwise only tops will grow.

HERBS - try parsley, chives, basil, thyme, dill. Herbs may be grown in flower pots on the patio or in sections of the flower garden.

PLAN FOR A SMALL VEGETABLE GARDEN

6' x 6'

NORTH



SOUTH

W. Atlee Burpee Co., 300 Park Avenue, Warminster, Pa. 18974.
Joseph Harris Co., Moreton Farm, Rochester, New York 14624.

Brochure Prepared by
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