

DAVIS COMMUNITY GARDEN INFORMATION

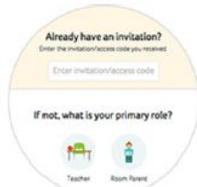
Rules -

- Take care of plants
- Pull weeds
- Water
- Take veggies when ready
- Share with others
- Use this as opportunity to learn and teach about our food production within your family

Communication -

- We are using an app called “**Bloomz**” which allows community garden participants to communicate...
 - **what has been done** (“Watered all the beds today” or “Weeded and watered bed 11”)
 - **what needs to be done** (“It’s going to be hot and dry for the next few days, can someone stop by and water the beds?” or “Please come pick some tomatoes!”)
 - **Recipe ideas** for the various veggies and herbs
 - **AND pictures!**

Sign up for Bloomz:



New Bloomz Member

1. Download the “Bloomz” app from the AppStore/PlayStore and click “Create Account”. If browser, go to bloomz.com and click on “Join Bloomz”
2. In the text box, enter **Z4RKV3**
3. Create your account



Existing Bloomz Member

1. Log into your Bloomz account
2. Click “+Add Class/Group” on the left navigation.
3. In the text box, enter **Z4RKV3**
4. Click next



... or join using text messaging instead

Text **@Z4RKV3** to 1-858-BLOOMZ1 (1-858-256-6691) to receive 1-way text messages from your admin

Gardening supplies -

- There is a supply bin under the tree with gardening equipment. Please return all equipment to bin when finished and make sure lid is secure so critters don't sneak in.
- If you can donate supplies at any time, that would be wonderful.

Plant Care (according to the Farmers Almanac:

<https://www.almanac.com/>)

Brussel Sprouts

- Fertilize three weeks after transplanting (Around 3rd-4th wk. of June)
- Do not cultivate, roots are shallow and susceptible to damage

Cucumbers

- The main plant care requirement for cucumbers is water—consistent watering! They need one inch of water per week (more if temperatures are sky high). Put your finger in the soil and when it is dry past the first joint of your finger, it is time to water. Inconsistent watering leads to bitter-tasting fruit.

Eggplant

- Eggplant will fall over once loaded with fruit. Be sure to stake plants 24 inches tall or use a cage to keep the plants upright.
- If growing eggplant in containers, stake the stems before the fruit forms.
- Water well without letting the soil get soggy. Consistent watering is best, and a soaker hose or drip system at ground level is ideal.
- Apply a balanced fertilizer every two weeks during the growing season.
- For bigger fruits, restrict to five or six per plant.
- Pinch out the terminal growing points for a bushier plant.
- Water slowly in the morning or early afternoon, avoiding the leaves so that you don't get leaf diseases which will ruin the plant. If possible, water your cucumbers with a soaker hose or drip irrigation to keep the foliage dry.
- When seedlings emerge, begin to water frequently, and increase to a gallon per week after fruit forms.

Green Beans (labeled “Pole Beans” AND “Bush Beans”)

Pole beans will grow as a climbing vine that may reach up to 15 feet tall. Therefore, pole beans require a trellis or staking. **Bush beans** will spread up to 2 feet, but do not require support.

- For a harvest that lasts all summer, sow beans every 2 weeks
- Mulch soil to retain moisture; make sure that it is well-drained.
- Water regularly, from start of pod to set. Water on sunny days so foliage will not remain soaked.

Kale

- Water the plants regularly, but be sure not to overwater them.

Kohlrabi -

Kohlrabi is an odd-looking member of the cabbage family grown for its bulb-like stem that tastes like a mild, sweet turnip. You can also eat the leaves. High in fiber and vitamin C, kohlrabi is a fast-growing cool-weather crop, with plants ready to harvest just a few weeks after planting. Try growing kohlrabi in spring or fall.

- Harvest kohlrabi stems when they are still young and tender, usually about 2 1/2 to 4 inches in diameter.
- Harvest by cutting them from the base of the plant. You can trim the leaves from the stem and save them to cook separately.
- Kohlrabi keeps for 2 to 3 weeks in the fridge. You can peel and slice kohlrabi tubers to eat them raw with dips or in salads, or you can cook them like turnips. The leaves are cooked until just tender, like cabbage or turnip greens.

Sweet Peppers (We planted red, yellow, and banana peppers)

Water one to two inches per week, but remember that peppers are extremely heat sensitive. If you live in a warm or desert climate, watering everyday may be necessary.

- Fertilize after the first fruit set.
- Weed carefully around plants.
- If necessary, support plants with cages or stakes to prevent bending. Try commercially available cone-shaped wire tomato cages.
- For larger fruit, spray the plants with a solution of one tablespoon of Epsom salts in a gallon of water, once when it begins to bloom, and once ten days later.

Swiss Chard

- When the plants are 3 to 4 inches tall, thin them out so that they are 4 to 6 inches apart or 9 to 12 inches apart if the plants are larger.
- Water Swiss chard evenly to help it grow better. Water often during dry spells in the summer. You can also mulch the plants to help conserve moisture.
- For the best quality, cut the plants back when they are about 1 foot tall. If the chard plants become overgrown, they lose their flavor.

Zucchini

- Zucchini like consistently moist soil.
- When the first blooms appear, apply a small amount of fertilizer as a side dress application.
- For all type of squash, frequent and consistent watering is recommended. Water most diligently when fruits form and throughout their growth period.
- Water deeply once a week, applying at least one inch of water. Do not water shallowly; the soil needs to be moist 4 inches down.
- After harvest begins, fertilize occasionally for vigorous growth and lots of fruits.
- If your fruits are misshapen, they might not have received enough water or fertilization.