

8 Easy Steps to Water your Vegetable and Annual Gardens Correctly

- 1 Compost your garden soil** with three inches of organic material before planting in the spring. Properly amended soil acts as a sponge to hold in water.
- 2 Pick a method of watering** – Get water to the roots. Drip systems, soaker hoses or micro spray heads are ideal.
- 3 Newly planted seeds and transplants will need to be watered daily until established.**
- 4 Know your plants.** Some plants need more water than others
- 5 Water when the soil is dry at the plants root zone.** Vegetables and annuals should be watered deeply, but, too much water can suffocate your plants.
- 6 Set a timer** to deeply deliver water every 3 days.
- 7 Water in early morning** while it is cool to prevent evaporation.
- 8 Mulch your garden** with straw or other organic material. This will hold in moisture.



*This schedule is based on average weather and average soils. Extremely hot weather and sandy soils may require an occasional irrigation a day sooner. Cool weather may allow you to skip or postpone a scheduled watering.