



DELA ATLANTIC
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Container Gardens

Container gardens offer better quality of soil and use less water. They also are less maintenance and more convenient.

Better quality soil and less water

Container gardens save water through only having to water a pot instead of a larger plot of land. The soil around a plot of land can be compacted or the pH can be off. A container garden allows you to choose your own soil, instead of spending hours trying to fix the soil on your property. They also allow you to plant a variety of different plants. Plants differ in the type of soil they thrive in so having individual containers allows you to grow a variety of crops and get the largest yield.

Low maintenance and convenience

Due to the small area, weeds are less likely to grow and you spend less time watering. This cuts down on the time you have to do maintenance. This is perfect for someone who wants a garden, but does not have the time to manage a large one. They are also convenient. This is great for someone who wants a garden but does not have the space. Container gardens offer portability. If you are moving you can take them with you or move them depending on how much sun they need. They are easier for people who are less mobile. Disease and fungus is less likely to spread from container to container rather than on a plot of land.

Reuse and Repurpose

Purchasing containers can get expensive depending on how many and what you buy. Another option is to reuse household items. There are many creative ideas and it can give your space a unique visual look. Some recommendations for household items are boots, plastic bottles, wheel barrel, buckets, or tires. You can then decorate the items with buttons, stones, or other items. This could be a great rainy day project for children as well!



Photo courtesy: P. Allen Smith

Recommendations for container size of common plants

Beans
5-gallon

Broccoli
1 plant per 5-gallon pot

Carrots
Container: 5-gallon container at least 12 inches deep

Cucumbers
2 plants per 1-gallon pot

Eggplant
One transplant per 5-gallon pot

Lettuce
5-gallon window box

Onions
5-gallon

Radishes
5-gallon

Peppers
1 plant per 2-gallon pot

Tomatoes
1 plant per 3-gallon container

Parsley
1 plant per 1/2 gallon container



Photo courtesy: P. Allen Smith

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