



The Small Farm Institute (SFI) is committed to engaging communities, limited-resource, socially disadvantaged, and veteran farmers and ranchers to educate, encourage, promote, improve, and develop economic and land sustainability.



NRCS helps America's farmers, ranchers and forest landowners conserve the nation's soil, water, air and other natural resources. All programs are voluntary and offer science-based solutions that benefit both the landowner and the environment.



Prairie View A&M University Cooperative Extension's mission is to empower and assist farmers and ranchers through education and technical assistance. Our goal is to ensure a sustainable, profitable, and competitive food and fiber system in the State of Texas by addressing the knowledge gap facing many farmers in areas such as:

To learn more about how you can implement a 5-year and Business Development program in your area, contact your local 5-County Office

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## Raised Bed Garden Start Up Guide

Topics :

- Site Selection
- Types of Garden Beds
- Garden Management
- Planting Times

## Site Selection

Six Tips To Observe :

1. Light: Most vegetables need at least six hours of direct sunlight.
2. Slope
3. Air Drainage
4. Water
5. Soil Texture
6. Soil Nutrients and pH
7. Soil Depth

## Types of Garden Beds

1. In-ground beds
2. Raised beds
3. Elevated raised beds
4. Containerized Beds



## Garden Management

1. Weeding-  
Pull weeds by hand , burn weeds, cover with landscape fabric , plant cover crops , or apply chemical application .
2. Watering -  
Drip irrigation, soaker hose, sprinkler, water hoes, water catchment, subsurface drip irrigation, or timers apparatus.
3. Pest Management -  
Develop a Integrated Pest Management plan, use biological predators insects , organic pesticide, companion planting, sacrificial planting , and or synthetic pesticides.
4. Fertilizing-  
Apply organic compost, Organic fertilizers (liquid,granular, or slow release) incorporate cover crops, compost teas , and or synthetic fertilizers.



*There are no gardening mistakes, only experiments. – Janet Kilburn Phillips*

## Planting Times

**Planting Zones:** Planting zones or growing zones are illustrated on a map known as the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map. The US Department of Agriculture divided out the map of the US in areas which range from planting zone 1A to planting zone 13B. These are areas which range in minimum temperatures from -60 degrees Fahrenheit to 70 degrees Fahrenheit.

**Spring Vegetables:** March, April and May. This time of year the weather is warming.

**Summer Vegetables:** June, July and August. With summer comes the mid-season with more heat .

**Fall Vegetables:** September and October. The weather is cooling down.

