Water-Wise
Edible Gardens

PLANT HARMONY
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it all starts with the soil...
Know Your Soil

**Sandy Soil**
- Gritty to the touch
- Great drainage
- Low in nutrients, organic matter
- Needs to be watered more frequently

**Loamy Soil**
- Crumbly & sticky to the touch
- Rich with organic matter
- Easy for roots & water to penetrate

**Clay Soil**
- Sticks together when wet & rock hard when dry
- Does not drain well
- Difficult for root to penetrate
Build Healthy Soil

- Amend Soil with Compost
- Use Organic Fertilizers
- Mulch! Mulch! Mulch!
the planning...
Hydrozoning & Xeriscape Design

Hydrozoning

Xeriscape Design

High Water Use Plants Close To High Use Areas

Small Lawn For Play Area

Low Water Use, Flowering Plants Transition Into Remaining Property
Raised Beds Save Water
plant in clusters, on a diamond grid, or in a hexagon pattern
• group close enough so that leaves touch, this creates microclimates and reduces transpiration evaporation
Companion Planting is key

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vegetable</th>
<th>Really likes to be with...</th>
<th>Really dislikes to be with...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asparagus</td>
<td>Basil, Tomato, Nasturtium, Parsley</td>
<td>Onion, Garlic, Potato</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beans</td>
<td>Carrot, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Cucumber, Marigold</td>
<td>Chives, Leek, Garlic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broad Beans</td>
<td>Brassicas, Carrot, Celery, Corn, Lettuce, Potato</td>
<td>Fennel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beets</td>
<td>Brassicas, Lettuce, Onion, Sage</td>
<td>Bean (pole)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broccoli</td>
<td>Celery, Chamomile, Dill, Rosemary</td>
<td>Oregano, Strawberry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brussel Sprouts</td>
<td>Potato, Thyme</td>
<td>Strawberry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabbage</td>
<td>Beetroot, Potato, Oregano, Sage</td>
<td>Strawberry, Tomato</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carrot</td>
<td>Bush Beans, Pole Beans, Lettuce, Onion, Pea, Radish, Tomato</td>
<td>Chives, Dill, Parsnip</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cauliflower</td>
<td>Beans, Celery, Oregano</td>
<td>Nasturtium, Peas, Potato, Strawberry, Tomato</td>
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<tr>
<td>Celery</td>
<td>Cabbage, Leek, Onion, Spinach, Tomato</td>
<td>Parsnip, Potato</td>
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<td>Corn</td>
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<td>Tomato</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cucumber</td>
<td>Bean, Celery, Lettuce, Pea, Radish</td>
<td>Cauliflower, Potato, Basil</td>
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<td>Eggplant</td>
<td>Bean, Capsicum, Potato, Spinach</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leek</td>
<td>Carrot, Celery, Strawberry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lettuce</td>
<td>Carrots, Radishes, Strawberry</td>
<td>Beans, Beetroot, Parsley</td>
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<td>Melon</td>
<td>Corn, Radish</td>
<td>Potato</td>
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<tr>
<td>Onion</td>
<td>Bean Sprout, Broccoli, Cabbage, Lettuce, Strawberry, Tomato</td>
<td>Bean, Beeta, Parsley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pea</td>
<td>Beans, Carrot, Corn, Cucumber, Radish</td>
<td>Onion Family</td>
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<td>Potato</td>
<td>Bean, Corn, Cabbage, Pea, Eggplant</td>
<td>Cucumber, Pumpkin, Squash, Sunflower</td>
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<td>Pumpkin</td>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>Potato</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spinach</td>
<td>Celery, Cauliflower, Eggplant</td>
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<td>Tomato</td>
<td>Asparagus, Celery, Carrot, Parsley, Marigold</td>
<td>Corn, Fennel, Potato</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zucchini</td>
<td>Nasturtium</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
companion planting

such as....
The Three Sisters
• Corn
• Beans
• Squash

not pictured here but a similar strategy with the Kale
Start from seed or buy starts
which plants are best to plant now...
Cool season crops
like chard and other leafy greens
Root Veggies
garlic
Grow Heirloom Veggies

Often many of the heirloom varieties from Mediterranean regions are favored for being drought tolerant water savers
Perennial and Herbaceous Herbs

- Lavender
- Oregano
- Rosemary
- Sage
- Thyme
- Tulsi Basil
Winter is

-Bare Root Season-

Fruit Trees, Berries, Fruiting Vines...
Plant Perennial Veggies!
Plant Cover Crops

• Fava Beans
• Clover
• Buckwheat
then how to water…
Irrigate Plants Properly

Remember to water deeply and infrequently
NOT shallow and often
Drip Irrigation Systems

- Allows for efficient, localized, deep watering
- Direct contact with soil so less water evaporation
- Less Weeds
- Can set timer for early in the morning when air & soil are cool
- Can set clock for multiple start times
grow organic!
Plant diversity
Exclude the pests
Tips on Maintaining Your Water-Wise Garden

➢ Add compost and use mulch

➢ Plant similar water needs together

➢ Check your Irrigation System, water deeply and less often

➢ Create Bio-Diversity, Invite the Beneficial Bugs and the Pollinators

➢ Grow Organic! Prevent, exclude and monitor for pest problems

➢ Relax and Enjoy!
“When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the universe.”

- John Muir
Thank you!

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