



WATERING YOUR GARDEN

Creating your watering schedule

At any given point during the school year, the Learning Garden will need to be watered 4-7 times a week and should be checked daily. This can be a big commitment for just 1-2 people. Creating a watering schedule is key to sharing the responsibility and will ensure a well-watered and thriving garden. Read the examples and consider the guiding questions below to aid you in creating a watering schedule that will work for your school. Use a calendar to record your schedule and be sure to share it with all of your fellow waterers.

Watering Schedule Examples:

- At 17th Street School the five members of the garden team each water the Learning Garden one day per week. For example, Mr. Park brings his 1st graders out to water the garden every Thursday.
- At Kershaw Middle School the Learning Garden is watered by three parent volunteers. Dan waters on Mondays and Wednesdays, Maria waters on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and Shauna waters on Fridays and Saturdays.
- At Springfield Elementary all interested teachers water daily for one week at a time.
- At Gardendale Elementary parent volunteers water on weekends, Mondays, and Fridays and the three second grade teachers each water one day per week on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.
- At Johnson High School the garden club waters every day after school, and rotates weekend watering between the students who live close to the school.
- At McMeen Elementary School the garden team attaches a timer to their drip irrigation system and checks on it once a week to adjust for seasonal water needs.

Guiding Questions:

1. How many teachers are interested in watering?
2. What flexibility do teachers have to bring their classrooms out to water the garden?
3. What watering methods will be used (cups and bucket, upcycled watering cans, hand spray or nozzle, irrigation system)?
4. Do you have an outdoor storage space that's accessible to all waterers and that could store a hose, spray nozzle, and water key? How about 30 Upcycled Watering Cans?
5. Do you have an existing volunteer base, or do you have the capacity to recruit volunteers?