

# INTRODUCTION TO GARDENING: BACK TO BASICS

## NOVEMBER – DECEMBER CLASSES



**“Being ready isn't enough; you have to be prepared” – Pat Riley**

## PLANTING FOR SUCCESS

**Preparing yourself to garden is the most important factor in successful garden.**

- Know your limitations.
- Set a goal!
- Keep things simple.
- Learn your zone.
- Decide what to plant.
- Stock up on supplies.
- Know your yard.
- Decide where to plant and why.
- Maintain realistic expectations.

**Class dates are subject to change due to attendance.**

DATE	TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER
11/2/13	9-10 am	Gardening: 101	Golden Tradewell
11/9/13	9-10 am	The Dirt on Dirt	Brian Pitre, MG
11/16/13	9-10 am	The perfect compost recipe	Alton Puckett, MG
12/7/13	9-10 am	Planning irrigation for your garden	Brian Pitre, MG
12/14/13	9-10 am	Growing more in the space you have	Golden Tradewell
12/14/13	9-11 am	How to use raised beds in your garden	Golden Tradewell

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## OVERVIEW OF THIS MONTH'S TOPICS:

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- 1. Gardening 101:** This presentation will help the individual prepare for a spring garden. The first step in planning a new garden is deciding where to put it. Topics presented will include: where to place the garden for adequate sunlight; how to ensure you have drainage and a water supply; types of gardening sites; size and convenience; designing your garden; and which vegetables can be grown based on the seasons and the weather.
- 2. The perfect compost:** As a movement, composting is finding a new following, and with good reason. It is a perfect way to Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle things that the average person considers to be trash. Composting allows us to reduce the amount of waste going into our bloated landfills, giving us the opportunity to reuse and recycle those items into nutrient-dense soil amendments that add important components to our soil. The best part of all is that when we salvage our compostable waste, we are creating that rich compost for free! Let It Rot!
- 3. Dirt on Dirt:** What is the "Dirt on Dirt", what is in the bag of potting soil you buy from the garden center, what's the difference between potting soil and top soil, why can't I just use the dirt in my yard, is there a difference between dirt and soil, and why. What is the best soil/dirt to use for what, when and why? All of these are the questions we intend to answer and more, giving you all the "Dirt" on Dirt. Building healthy and fertile soil is the basis of all organic gardening.
- 4. Planning irrigation for your garden:** How and when to water; what are the best ways to water your garden. Is an irrigation system right for your garden?
- 5. Growing more with the space you have:** All plants can be grown in a variety of containers, such as raised beds, cloth pots, clay pots, coconut liners, stumps of old trees, etc. Learn about which containers work best for what plants, and if a container garden is right for you.
- 6. How to use raised beds:** The pros and cons of using raised beds instead of tilling the soil. What types of raised beds are there and which ones will work best in different scenarios.