



ACCESSIBILITY, THEFT, VANDALISM

1. Accessibility:

As you plan your garden, think about all the individual people you imagine working in the garden together. Think of how the garden can be easily used by kids, adults, seniors, and disabled.

Limiting factor:

Height of the soil

Pathways

Tools

Dexterity

Solution:

Raised beds, containers, adaptive tools

Even, firm ground for canes, wheelchairs, walkers

Ramps with proper incline

Durable, light weight, easy to grip tools

Long-necked tools to limit bending

Have kneeling pads available

Automatic seeder

**Have benches or seats available within your garden's property*

2. Theft and Vandalism:

- Encourage whole community involvement right from the beginning
- Grow more than you need and share the harvest
- Invite kids to get involved. Show them what's growing, insects, etc.
- Place signs near the front of the garden so passerby's know what it is and how to get involved, or that they are welcome to come in
- Report theft to the police and let the community know
- Host public events
- Track what type of plants are stolen, consider growing some of these on the outside of the fence (if you have one), and less appealing once inside
- Seriously consider your fence and the type of message you want to display
- Harvest regularly. Keep the place neat.
- Dust plants with flour-- it doesn't hurt the plants but makes them look unappealing
- Listen and respond to concerns voiced by neighbors and community members