



Reducing waste and saving money in your edible garden: Water (1)

Using less water in your edible garden means you save money while also helping the environment. Here are some ideas to lower your water bill and conserve water!

- **Water plants in pots lightly but more often.** Do not water your pots so much that water is coming out the bottom – that is all the nutrients from the soil being wasted!
- **Water garden beds deeply but less often.** This also helps with root development which means healthier plants and quicker harvests!
- When planting, **group plants with similar water requirements** near each other. For instance, cucumber and zucchini have similar water needs.
- Consider planting **drought-tolerant plants** to save water. These include okra, rosemary, silverbeet and oregano.
- **Avoid watering your plants in the middle of the day.** By avoiding the hottest part of the day, you will help more water to get into the soil, rather than evaporating.
- Consider using **mulch on you garden beds.** This will help to reduce the amount of water that you need, and has the added benefit of controlling weeds and improving soil quality!

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