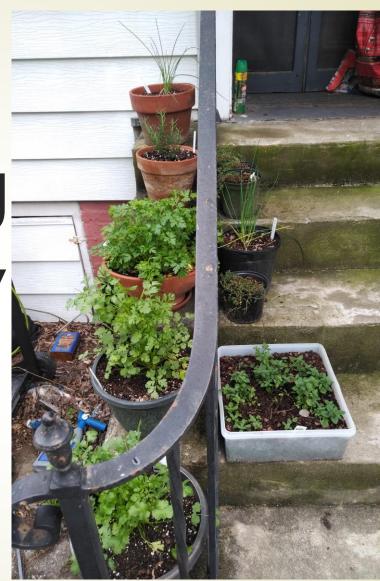
# Growing Culinary Herbs

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## Why Herbs?

Aesthetics (landscaping)
Aromatic (essential oils)
Attracts pollinators
Medicinal, repellents
Flavor (culinary)

## **Culinary Herbs**

#### Annuals

#### **Perennials**

Basil
Cilantro
Dill
Lemongrass
Parsley

Chives Mints Oregano Rosemary Sage Thyme

## **Culinary Herbs**

#### **Cool Season**

#### Warm Season

CilantroDillParsley

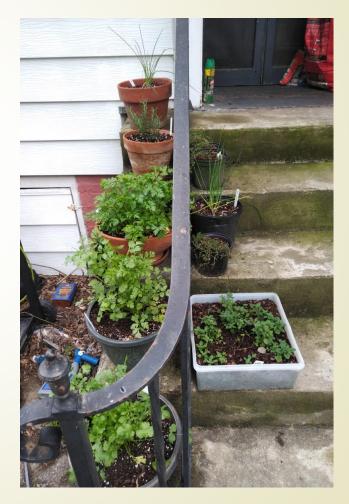
Basil
Lemongrass
Oregano
Sage

# **Growing Herbs**

Very few pest problems
Most herbs love sunny areas
Needs well-drained soils
Sensitive to over-watering
Most are hardy to Zone 5 with protection

# **Growing Herbs**

Containers recommended Make note of your usage Many varieties and flavors Be patient with seed starting



#### Chives, Onion (Allium spp.) Height: 12" Spacing: 12" Full sun to part shade Uses: eggs, salads, soups, butter, dips, potatoes, cheeses, spreads, flowers edible



#### Chives, Garlic & Onion (Allium spp.)

Cool season perennial Grow from seed or division Flower pinching Few disease or insect pests



Credit: Handy-Herbs

#### Cilantro & Parsley (Apiaceae)

Height: 12-18"Spacing: 18"

Full sun to light shade



Credit: Simply Recipes

 Uses: garnish, Asian
 & Mexican dishes, stews, soups





#### Cilantro & Parsley (Apiaceae)

Cool season annual (cilantro) Cool season biennial (parsley) Grow from seed Can become weedy Varieties (parsley): curly (French), flat-leaf (Italian)

#### Mint Family (Lamiaceae)

Height: 12-18"Spacing: 18"

Full sun to light shade

 Uses: drinks, sauces, jellies, vinegars, fruit salad



Credit: Serious Easts



Credit: Gaylynn Johnson

#### Mint Family (Lamiaceae)

Cool season perennial
Catmint, peppermint, spearmint, lemon balm
Grow from cuttings or division
Square stems
Can become invasive

### Sweet Basil (Ocimum basilicum) Height: 20 – 24"

- Spacing: 6 12"
- Full sun
- Uses: soups, stews, pasta sauces, pesto, meat dishes, vinegars



Credit: HowMuchIsIn.com



#### Sweet Basil (Ocimum basilicum)

Warm season annual

Flower pinching

Japanese beetles

Cultural practices for diseases

Other varieties: purple leaf, cinnamon, Thai, Greek columnar

#### Oregano (Origanum vulgare)

Height: 24''
Spacing: 8 – 12''

Full sun

 Uses: soup, stews, meat dishes, sauces, stuffing, vegetables



Credit: HowMuchIsIn.com



### Oregano (Origanum vulgare)

Warm season perennial

- Grow from cuttings or root division
- Good border plant
- Attracts honey bees
- Other varieties: Greek, Italian, sweet marjoram

#### Rosemary (Rosmarinus officinalis)

-Height: 36 - 72"

- Spacing: 12"
- Full sun



Credit: Good Morning Center

 Uses: teas, baked goods, butter, soups, stews, stuffing, vinegar, meat dishes

#### Rosemary (Salvia officinalis)

Warm season, woody perennial

 Grow from stem cuttings, division, or layering

Slow and low rate of germination



#### Harvest and Storage of Herbs

Best to harvest in the morning
 Peak flavor is achieved near flowering

Harvest what's needed or store/process immediately
 Rinse and dry thoroughly

### Harvest and Storage of Herbs

Storage times

- Refrigerator: days to a week\*
- Freezer: 6 months to a year\*
  - Ice cube trays with water or butter
- Drying: up to a year
   Air dry or low heat (dehydrator, oven)

## Harvest and Storage of Vegetables

Harvest in the morning

- Each vegetable is different
- Refrigerate or eat within a few hours of harvest

Some vegetables, such as lettuce, have to be eaten fresh

## Harvest and Storage of Vegetables

Canning\*

- Pressure canning (low acid foods, < pH 4.6)</p>
- Boiling water bath canning (High acid foods, > pH 4.6)
- Dehydrating
- Freezing
  - Usually requires blanching

## References

Boiling Water Bath Canning – VCE Publication 348-594

Pressure Canning – VCE Publication 348-585

Herbs Are Easy (NCSU) <u>https://chatham.ces.ncsu.edu</u> /2015/05/herbs-are-easy/