LAGG Garden Mentor Site Visit <u>Topic Sheet</u>

1/2015 isak z.

The role of the mentor is to provide gardeners with information, support, suggestions and motivation. Gardens should be fun, not frustrating!

Planting:

- When to plant different crops
- Starting seeds
- Transplanting
- Size and growth style considerations
- Succession crops
- Shade issues/tall plants

Watering:

- How is the soil moisture?
- Watering style?
- Watering frequency?

Harvesting

- Different types of harvesting (fruit vs greens vs topping)
- Is produce getting harvested and utilized

Garden cleanliness:

- How often to weed
- Remove weeds before they go to seed!
- What materials to remove from a garden
- Managing volunteer plants
- Thinning

Physical features

- Trellis use/condition
- Other plant supports
- Hose barriers
- Decorations
- Unnecessary items?

Neighbors

- How is the relationship with the neighbors?
- Any physical encroachment into the neighboring space?

Pests

- Any evidence of pest activity?
- What type of client pest complaints?
- Methods for dealing with pests

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Disease

- Any evidence of disease activity?
- What type of client disease complaints?
- Methods for dealing with plant disease issues.
- Removing diseased plant matter

Compost

- Is there a compost setup on site?
- DO they know the composting basics, 50% carbon, 50% nitrogen?
- Compost status?
- Other sources of compost?
- What do they need to become active Home composters?

Soil Amendments:

- How is the soil being amended?
- Fertilization and feeding

Mulch

- Is there mulch present?
- TYpes of mulch that would be appropriate?
- Do they know where to get mulch?

Misc

- Any abnormal findings?
- Any concerning findings?

Info to confirm:

- Best email address
- Current phone number
- Best method of contact
- Best day to schedule garden visits