

## How Does Our CIB Garden Grow?



The Question that is asked the most of Coshocton in Bloom is "How do you keep your planters so beautiful all season long"? This CIB Factsheet will help get you off to a great start!

1: First, we suggest you pick an appropriate area to set your container. Know if the spot is Full Sun, Partial Sun or Full Shade. Does the container receive rain or no rain? You will want to make sure you plant flowers that will thrive in the spot you choose.



2: Next you will want to pick a container that is made for outdoor use. Flowers and planters should be chosen to blend well with one another. Color, potential plant size and the mass of flowers must be taken into consideration when choosing a container. Each year CIB posts this year's flower theme and color selection on our Facebook account: Coshocton in Bloom.



3: If the planter has been used previously, you will want to thoroughly clean it with water and bleach to kill any bacteria, disease or pests. Then soak the planter that is constructed of clay or terracotta overnight to fill the pores and ensure plant hydration from the start.

4: If there are no holes in the bottom of the container, drill 3/4-inch drainage holes to ensure proper drainage. Cover the holes inside the planter using broken crockery or stones. This prevents soil from blocking the holes or leaking out of the container.



5: Pour a light potting soil and compost mixture into the container. CIB uses Pro-Mix in our planters. DO NOT use cheap potting soil. Select plants that go well together and need the same growing environment. Dig holes with a trowel that meet the depth the individual plants and root systems require. Instructions can be found on commercial flower tags.

6: You will want to gently remove plants from pots. Tap the bottom of the container if resistance is felt. Hold the plant by the stem in one hand at the soil line. Lower the plant into a hole. Trowel dirt gently around the roots of the plant to fill in the hole. Water thoroughly.

7: Add a layer of mulch on top of the soil in large planters to slow down the evaporation of moisture.

8: Water and fertilize regularly. CIB uses "Jack's Blossom Booster" to feed our plants once a week.

