# **Garden Bed Preparation**



#### John Geib Master Gardener Compost Specialist Vegetable Specialist





#### Overview

- What you are growing / Areas of the yard
- Preparations
- Maintenance
- Resources



#### Where are you prepping

- Lawn
- Garden Beds
- Vegetable Beds
- Raised Beds / Containers

# TOOLS

- Find and organize
- Clean and Sharpen Everything
- Try your mower / repair as needed
- Get FRESH gas



## **Established Lawns**

- Does not need as much amending
  - Light coat of Compost
  - 25-0-0 fertilizer after second mow
- Needs higher nitrogen levels
- Pre-emergent?
- Light Scalp



#### New Lawns

- Seed or Sod
- Best time to amend
  - Heavy coat of Compost
  - Till it in
  - Needs higher nitrogen levels
  - Install sprinkler system



# Established Garden Beds

- Needs higher levels across the board
- MAY need much more amending
  - Medium coat of Compost
  - May need Expanded Shale
- Mulch Heavily
  - Organic material mulch



# New Garden Beds

- Needs higher levels across the board
- MAY need much more amending
  - Medium coat of Compost
  - May need Expanded Shale
  - Till them in
- Mulch Heavily
  - Organic material mulch

# Established Vegetable Beds

- Needs higher levels across the board
- Probably needs much more amending
  - Heavy coat of Compost
  - May need Expanded Shale, Perlite, or Vermiculite
- Mulch Heavily
  - Organic mulch

- Needs higher levels across the board
- PROBABLY needs much more amending
  Heavy coat of Compost
  - May need Expanded Shale, Perlite, or Vermiculite
  - Till them in









# Containers

- Needs higher levels across the board
  - All nutrients are provided through fertilizer
- MAY need much more amending
  - Medium coat of Compost
  - May need Expanded Shale, Perlite, or Vermiculite
- Mulch as able
  - Organic material mulch

# Containers

- Can use gravel in the base
- May use water dishes
- May use rolling bases
- Mulch as able
  - Organic material mulch



#### QUESTIONS?

#### www.bcmgtx.org aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu soiltesting.tamu.edu Big Country Master Gardeners on Facebook

Big Country Master Gardeners on YouTube

325-672-6048 (Extension office)



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