

## **Woodland Elementary West Harvest Garden 2007**

We are pleased to kick off the 4th Annual Woodland Elementary West Harvest Garden for our second graders. The garden is behind the bus parking lot. Last year we harvested and donated over 400 pounds of vegetables to the Warren Township food pantry, which provides fresh produce to needy families.

You are the starting point: Your class has been provided vegetable seeds, peat pots, and plastic “greenhouses”. Please have your class plant the seeds no later than April 20 to ensure the seedlings are well-established prior to outdoor planting on May 24 and 25.

### **Directions:**

Place one layer of peat pots in the plastic clam shells and water thoroughly so peat pots expand. Loosen top peat material with a pencil and insert the seeds per seed-packet instructions. Lightly water, close clam shell, and place in window. Check twice daily and water as needed. Soil should remain moist but not soggy. Do not allow the pots to dry out completely. You can water the pots from above and also put 1/4” water in the container in which they sit and allow the water to soak up from below (pour off any standing water after 30 – 60 minutes to avoid root rot). Seedlings may “fry” on windowsills with hot, direct sunlight. They may thrive better in an area of the room with less direct sunlight. Water plants thoroughly on Friday afternoons and move them away from sunny window sills over the weekend.

After the plants start to sprout, open the container to allow for airflow and growing space (this will require greater attention to watering). If you have more seeds than you need, please save any unopened seed packets and send them to the office.

If you have any problems with your plants (they don’t come up, they die, not sure about watering, etc.) please call: xxxx xxxxxxxx at xxx-xxx-xxxx.

If your plants don’t make it, we need to know by May 18 so we can purchase replacement plants for planting day.

Thank you for helping kick off this year’s garden project. Throughout the season, the children learn not only what plants need to grow, but respect for the earth, safety and each other. They learn responsibility and the joy of giving.

Any questions about the garden project? Call xxxx xxxxxxxx at xxx-xxx-xxxx.