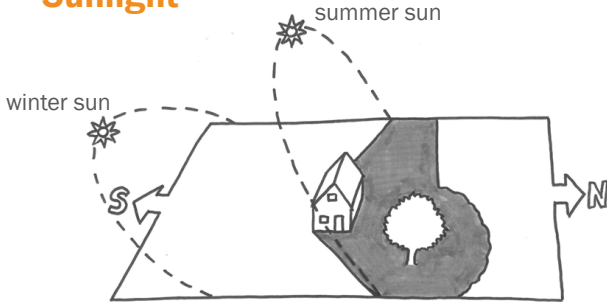


# Where to grow vegetables

## Choosing a good site for gardening

### Sunlight



Across mid-Michigan, the sun stays within the southern part of the sky. For this reason, it is best to grow vegetables on the south side of tall plants or buildings and not on the shady north side of them.

**Sun mapping:** Measure sunlight hours by making a map, then record how many hours areas are in shade or in sun throughout the day in the summer. Select a space that is in full sun for your vegetable garden.



**FULL SUN:** Six or more total hours of direct sun per day. Garden vegetables grow best in full sun.

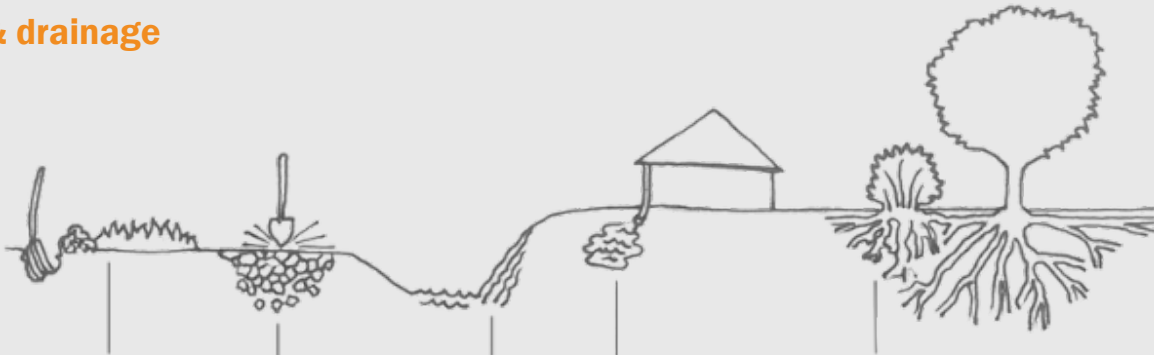


**PART SHADE:** Four to six total hours of direct sun per day. Some leafy and root vegetables can grow in part shade.



**FULL SHADE:** Fewer than four total hours of direct sun per day. Vegetables do not grow well in full shade.

### Soil & drainage



Choose a spot that is easy to dig into and already grows healthy, green plants, like grass.

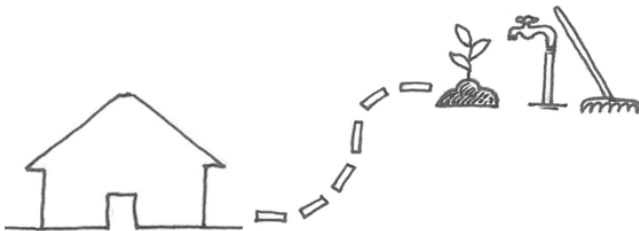
Avoid soils too hard to dig into with a shovel.

Avoid steep slopes.

Avoid consistently wet areas.

Avoid areas close to large plants and roots.

### Accessibility



Place your garden where you can see and get to it from your home, so you can visit it every day. It should also be close to a watering source and tool storage for easy access.