



July 22, 2023

## Drip Irrigation Saturday Workshop Master Gardeners of Alameda County Lake Merritt Trials and Demonstration Garden

### Drip Irrigation

What is drip irrigation?

- A system that slowly delivers water to a plant's roots.
- Operates under low pressure and is usually delivered via ½" PE tubing to a variety of emitters.
  
- Pros
  - Very efficient: less runoff and evaporation.
  - Water is delivered where it is needed. Encourages roots to go deep.
  - Fewer weeds and diseases.
  - Inexpensive and fairly easy to install.
  
- Cons
  - Not as uniform as spray or rotors
  - Requires modification for new plantings.
  - Fragile
  - More difficult to see problems.
  - Requires more maintenance and attention.
    - Repairs
    - Relocating, and adding emitters as plants grow
  
- What is needed? Components
- Assembly Demonstration
  - Order/ sequence of parts
  - Connection Tips
- Design Considerations
  - Best to have different zones where plants with similar water needs are grouped.
  - Consider Sun, shade, and slope.
  - WUCOLS = Water Use Classification of Landscape Species (UC Davis, CA Center for Urban Horticulture)
  - Ways to Regulate the amount of water delivered to plants.
    - Controllers
    - Emitters
    - Flow rate
    - Schedule: how often and how long

## *Garden Walk*

- Veggie Beds, Container area, Monarch Habitat and Outstanding Plants  
Bee and Habitat Areas

### *Websites / References:*

Master Gardeners of Alameda County <https://acmg.ucanr.edu/>

Drip Irrigation:

MG document with tables of emitter info and soil type

<https://ucanr.edu/sites/mgslo/files/280518.pdf>

<https://mg.ucanr.edu/Gardening/Vegetable/Caring/Irrigation/>

[https://sonomamg.ucanr.edu/Drip\\_Irrigation/](https://sonomamg.ucanr.edu/Drip_Irrigation/)