

SUMMERTIME SECRETS

It's fresh veggie time! A trick to keeping them fresh in the fridge is to line the crisper with paper towels to absorb excess moisture. Don't forget to put herbs in a container of water, then place them in the refrigerator.

Indoor plants get very thirsty so what happens if you are lucky enough to get away for vacation? Water them really well then put them together snug in a deep enough tub with crumbled up newspaper. Wet the paper, filling in all the gaps. It will keep plants moist and happy for at least a week!

Outdoor plants are very stressed during these hot and humid Cincinnati summers. If trees look a bit weary, water them slowly and deeply. Drip hoses are perfect for this.

With summer's heat and humidity stress, fertilizer or herbicides should not be applied. They may actually burn the plant or lawn. (Fungicides are okay to use and some annuals can handle fertilizer.) Speaking of lawns, it is best to mow higher and water it as needed.

Finally, water container plants daily, bedding plants 2-3 times a week soaking deeply, try to keep on top of the weeds, and deadhead (pinch off) flowers to keep the blooms a-bloomin'!

*Happiness held is the seed.
Happiness shared is the flower.*

- John Harrigan