#### RAISED BED GARDENING



SIP = SELF-IRRIGATING PLANTER

#### Why?

No water bib on this side of the lot

Needed something to improve the appearance of this side of the lot

Bad back!

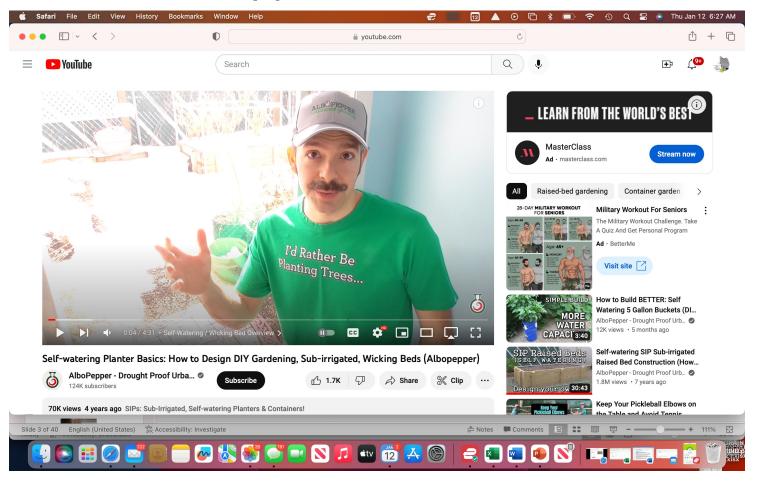
#### THE BEFORE...MAY, 2021



Never grown veggies before – wanted to try it

Always need more gardening space

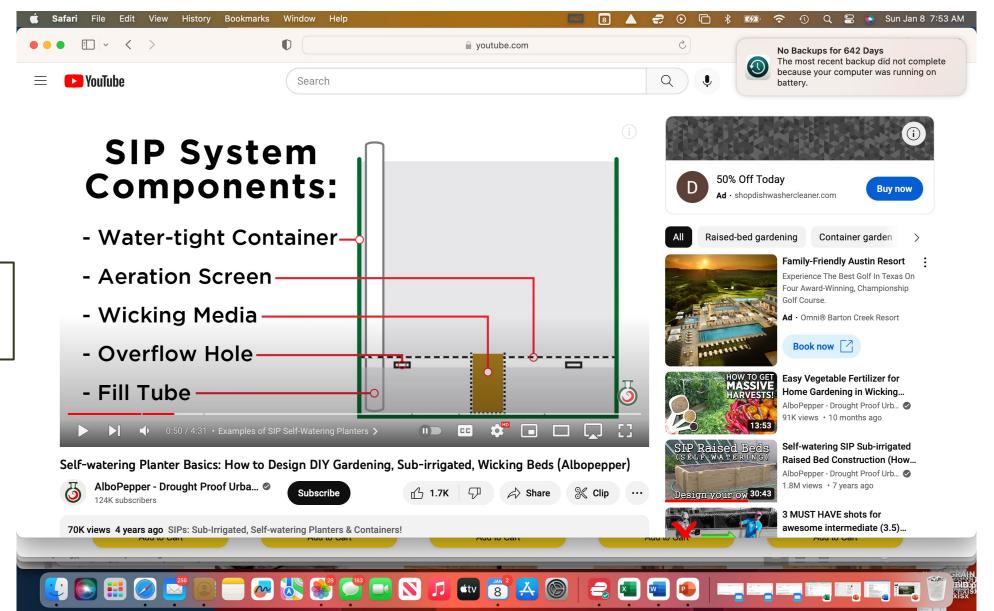
#### Meet Albo Pepper...



- Self-watering Planter Basics: How to Design DIY Gardening, Sub-irrigated, Wicking Beds (Albopepper)

#### **FAMILYHANDYMAN.COM**

- <a href="https://www.familyhandyman.com/project/how-to-build-raised-garden-beds/">https://www.familyhandyman.com/project/how-to-build-raised-garden-beds/</a>
- Tending raised plants is a lot easier on the back and knees.
- You can fill planters with top-quality soil for more productivity in a smaller space.
- Raised beds curtail creeping weeds and drifting seeds.
- The height discourages pests, especially rabbits, although the Bighorn sheep thought I was building them a feeding trough!
- Landscape feature

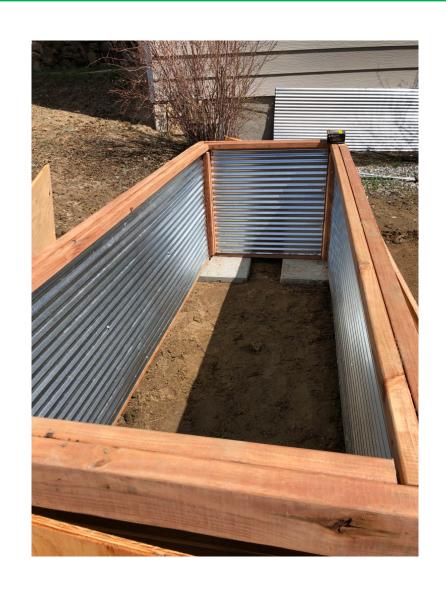


A DRAIN TUBE IS ALSO REQUIRED

# The planter boxes are made of pressure-treated redwood. It was important to level them at the beginning so the water in the reservoir would be level.



#### Corrugated metal is purely for visual appeal.



## Plywood sheets are added to the framework. Scott Wallace of Wallace Landscaping is the builder.



### THE INSIDE DIMENSION OF EACH BOX IS 78" LONG BY 30" WIDE AND 26" DEEP

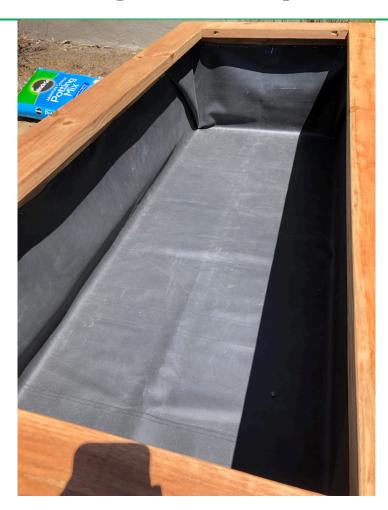
11' FOR THE WATER RESERVOIR
13" OF SOIL
2" OF CLEARANCE BELOW
THE TOP OF THE POND LINER.



## The beds are located in an area where they receive full sun.

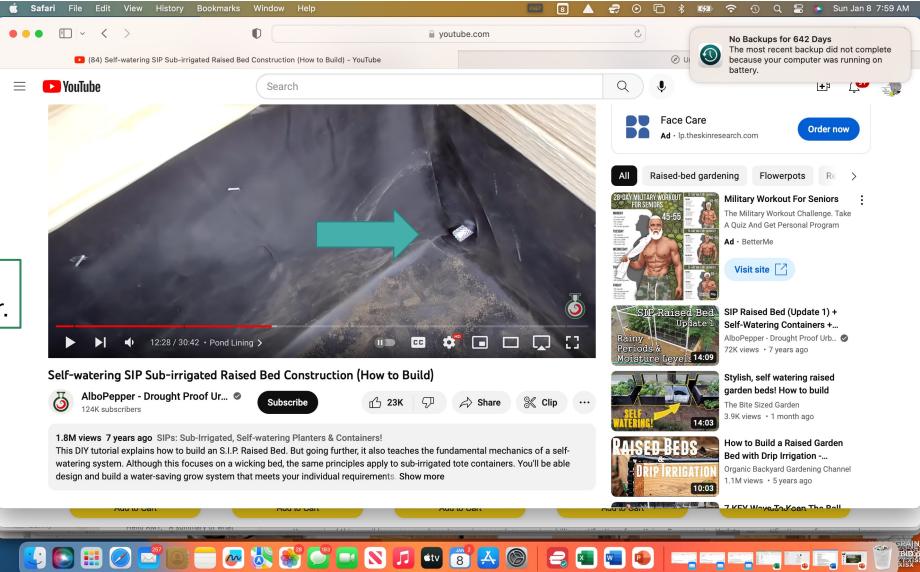


# A POND LINER MAKES THE WATER RESERVOIR. These were purchased from Amazon, cut to fit, then stapled into place.

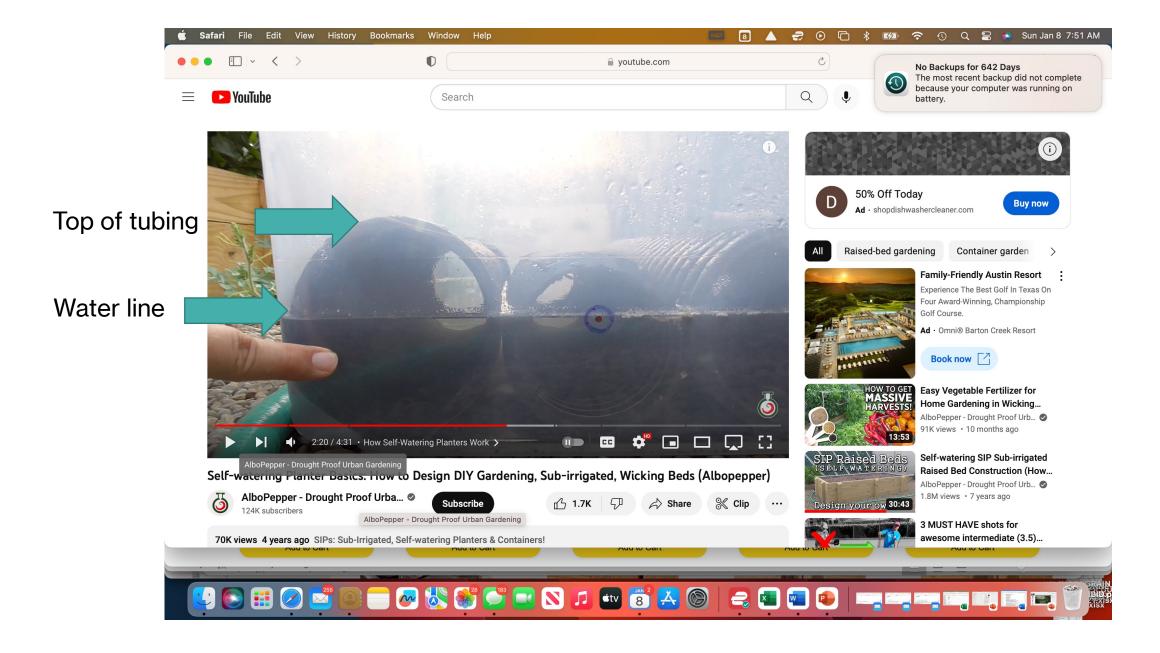


## PVC PIPE IS USED FOR FILL AND DRAIN TUBES. THE DRAIN TUBE IS LOCATED ABOUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PIPING, WHICH WILL BE THE HIGH WATER LINE IN THE RESERVOIR.





The drain tube is Inserted into the liner.



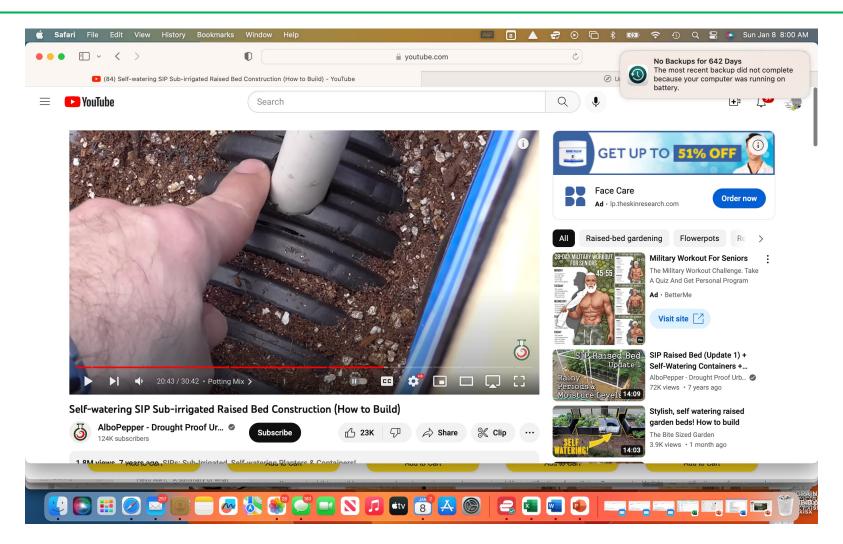
# MAKING THEM SELF-IRRIGATING CORRUGATED AND PERFORATED IRRIGATION TUBING IS CUT TO FIT THE BOX.. TUBING COMES WITH THE ELASTIC SOCK IN 100' ROLLS AT A COST OF ABOUT \$95.00

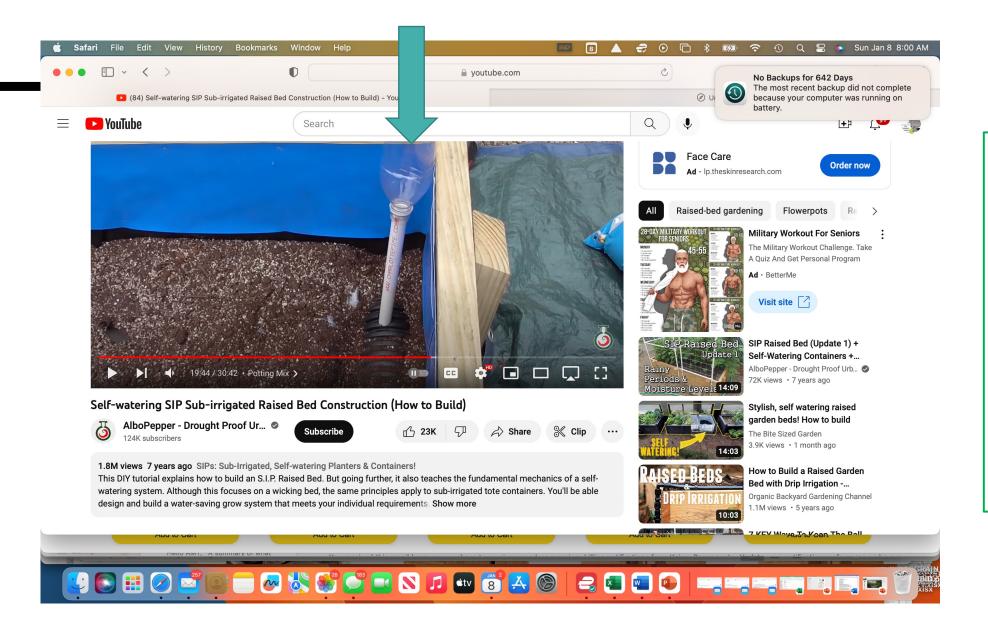
The elastic sock acts as a screen to keep soil out of the reservoir.



THE FILL TUBE

### THE FILL TUBE IS INSERTED INTO THE TUBING SO THE WATER STAYS SOMEWHAT FILTERED.





This is the fill tube.

A garden hose is used to fill the reservoir.

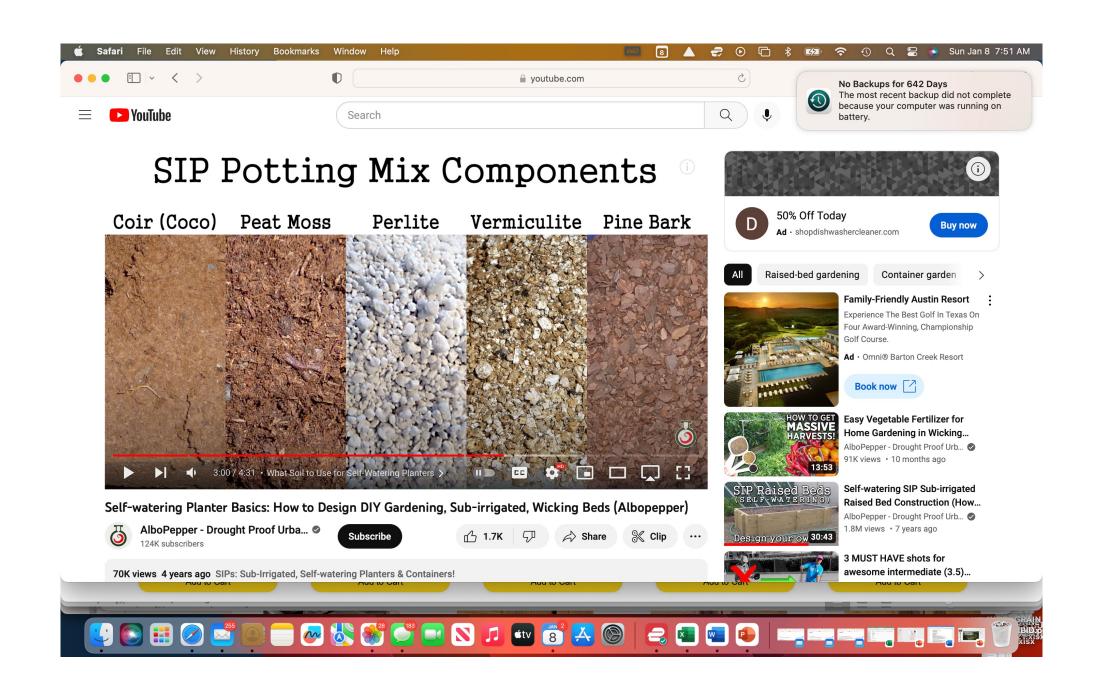
It takes about 15 minutes to add enough water to make it come out the drain tube.

### READY TO ADD SOIL The bottom layer is peat moss, perlite and vermiculite.

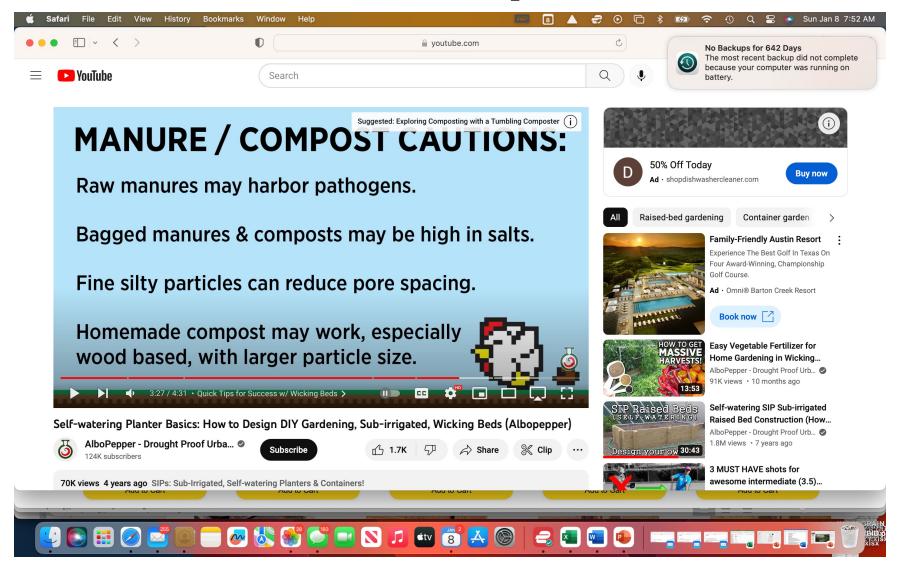
Capillary action is important for moving water (and all of the things that are dissolved in it) around. It is defined as the movement of water within the spaces of a porous material due to the forces of adhesion, cohesion, and surface tension.

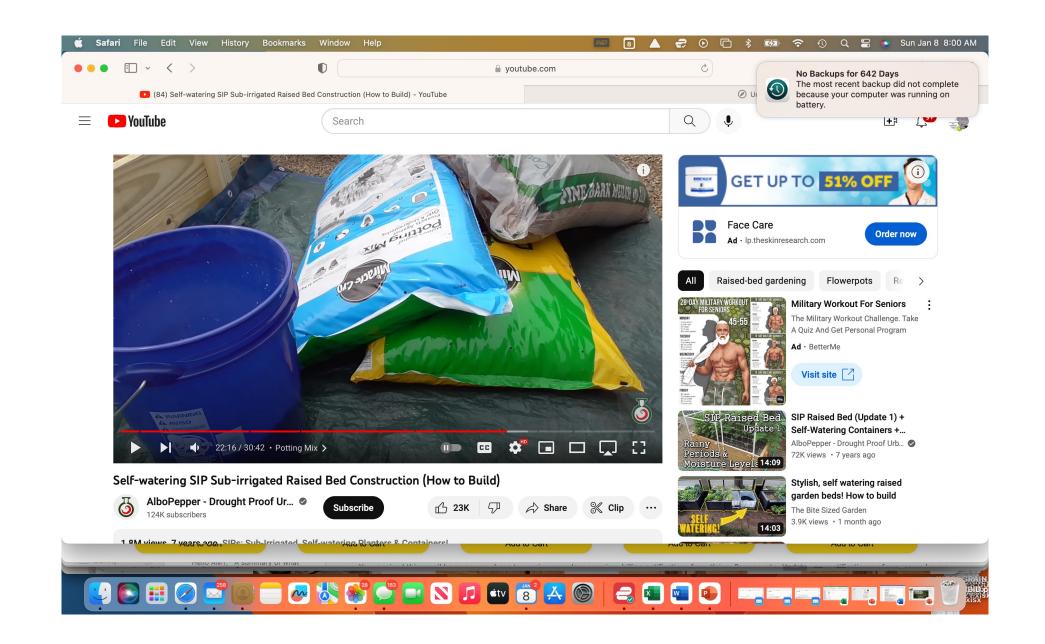


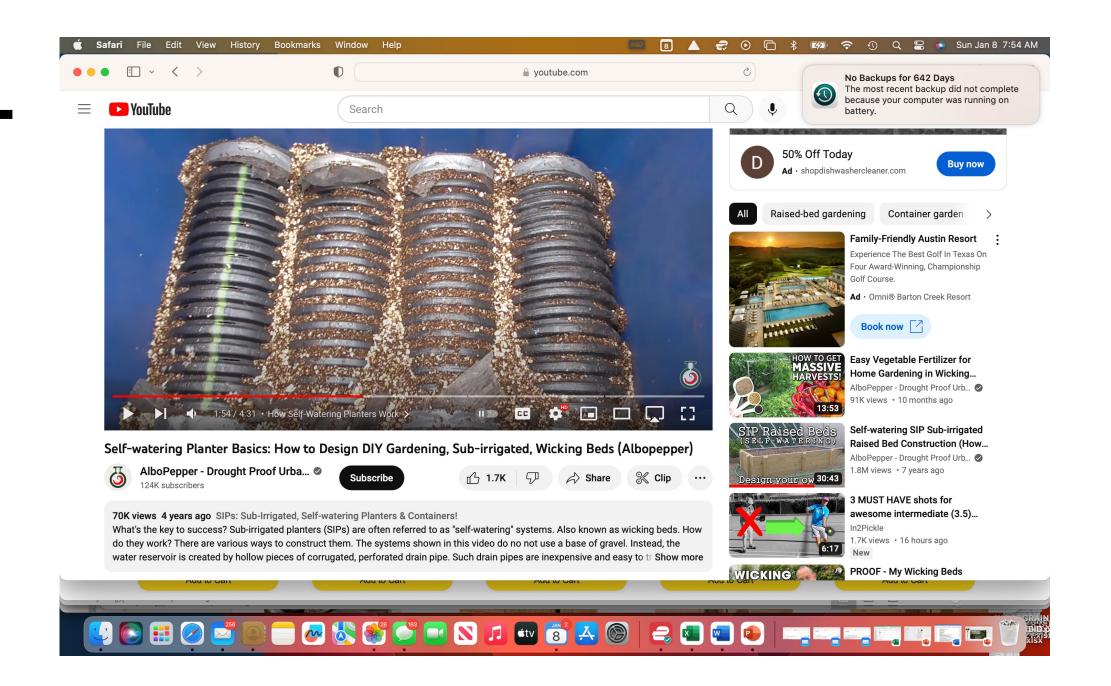
Moisture retention and absorption are key



#### Soil tips:



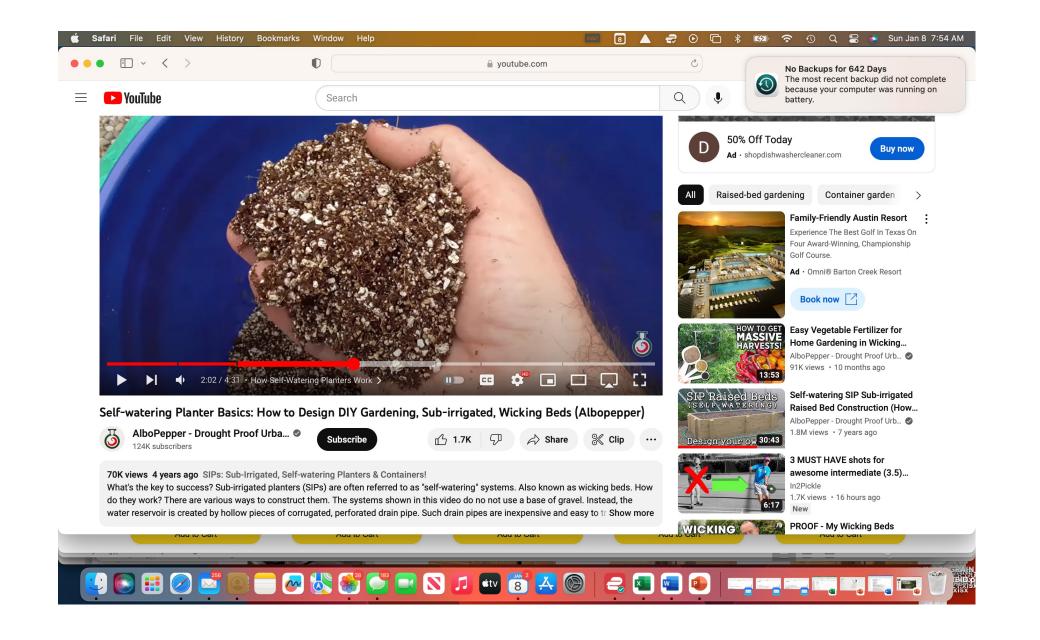




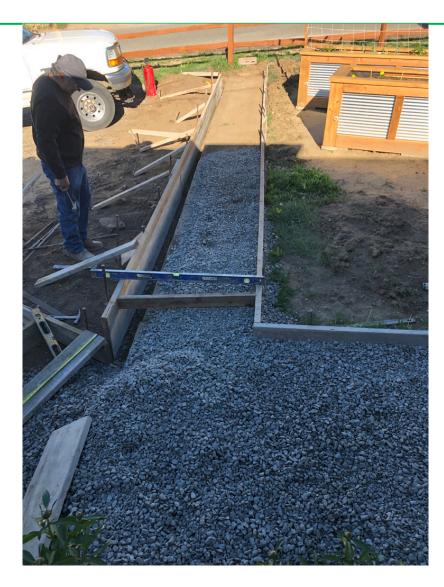
SMALL PINE
BARK MULCH,
MOISTURE
CONTROL AND
REGULAR
POTTING SOIL,
TOTALING 24 CU.
FT/BOX.



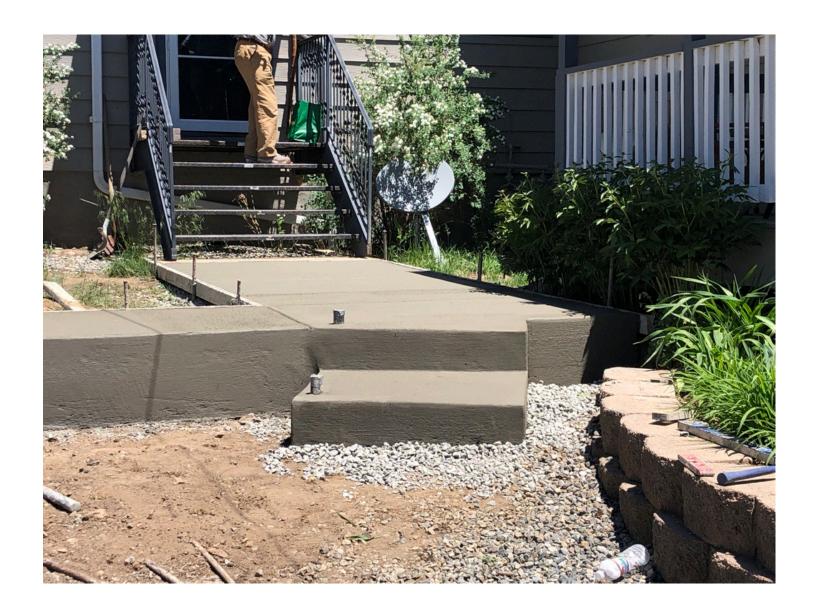
WOOD WAS TREATED
PRIOR TO ASSEMBLY WITH
CLEAR STAIN TO
PROVIDE WATER
RESISTANCE.



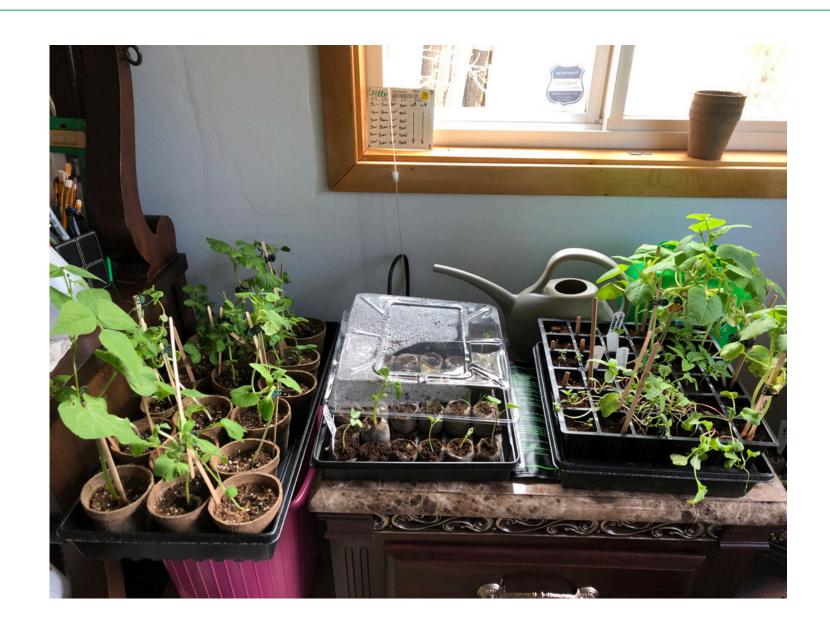
#### **POURING THE SIDEWALK AND STAIRS**

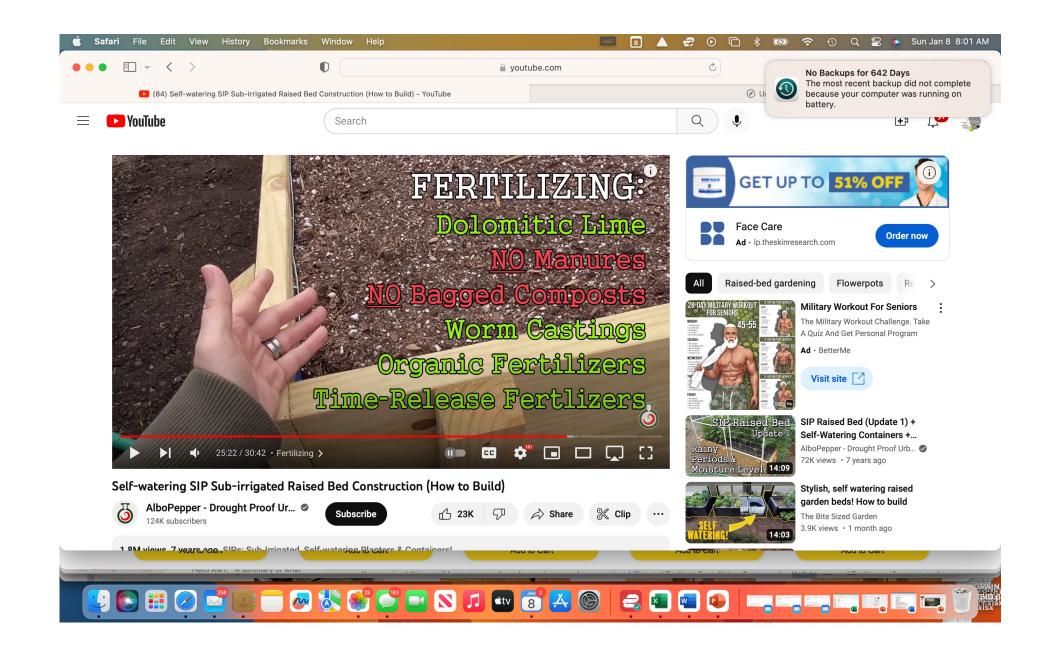






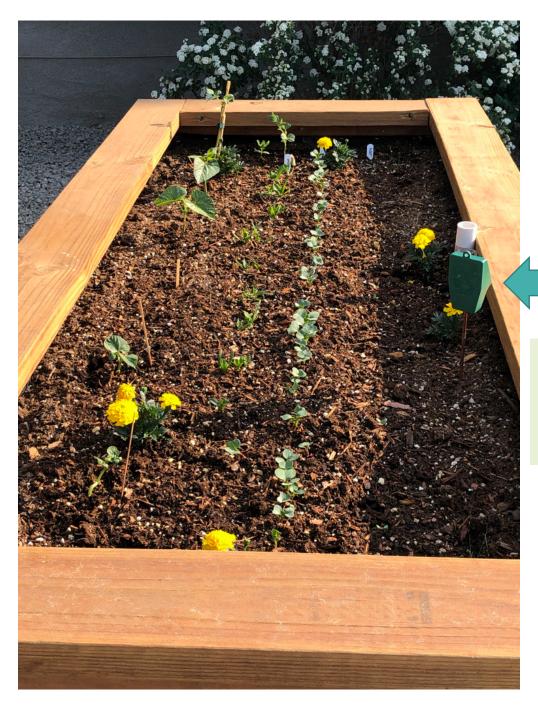
#### SEED STARTING IN LATE WINTER





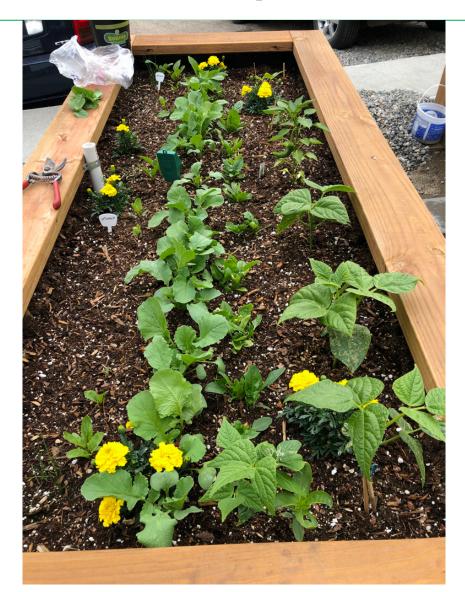
SOME OF THESE DIDN'T EVEN MAKE IT A WEEK BEFORE WE GOT A HARD FROST -HAD TO START OVER.





On the right is a moisture meter to measure how wet the soil is at a depth of 6-10".

## French radish, beets, peppers, bush beans. Marigolds are said to keep the deer and sheep away



#### GREEN BEANS, PEPPERS, SNAP PEAS ON THE LEFT, AND BUSH BEANS, VEG, CHIVES AND A FEW FLOWERS ON THE RIGHT.



#### A VISITING CICADA...



#### **LOVELY FRENCH RADISHES – MY FIRST HARVEST!**



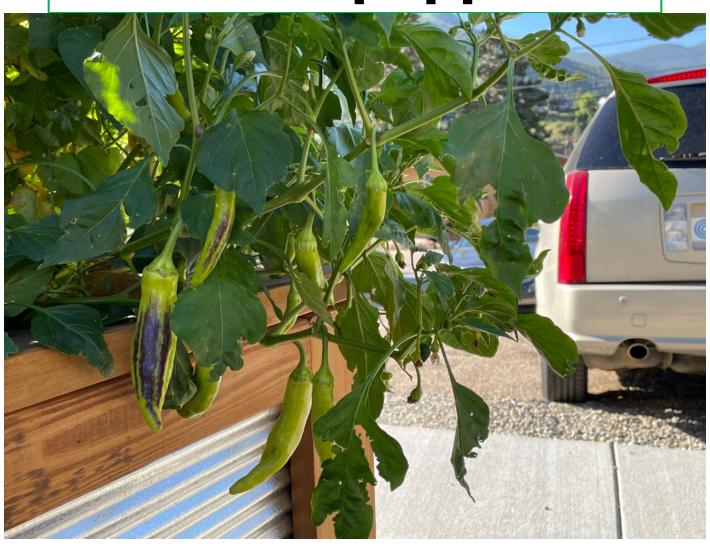
## COTTON NETTING FOR CLIMBING SNAP PEAS AND BEANS



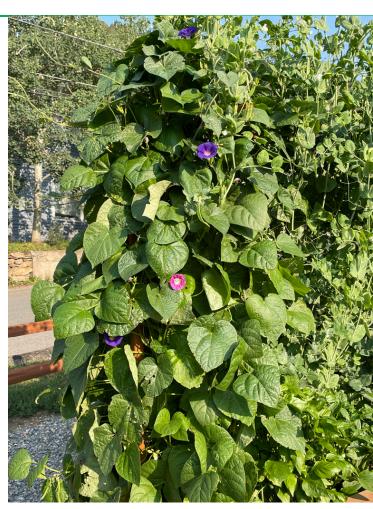
# Early spinach



### Banana peppers



## Morning glories give the bean foliage some color



#### Peak of the season



#### HOMEGROWN DINNER



## THE SECOND YEAR ...BRUSSELS SPROUTS. Aphids attacked!



Baby sprouts

#### Holiday deco 2022

