



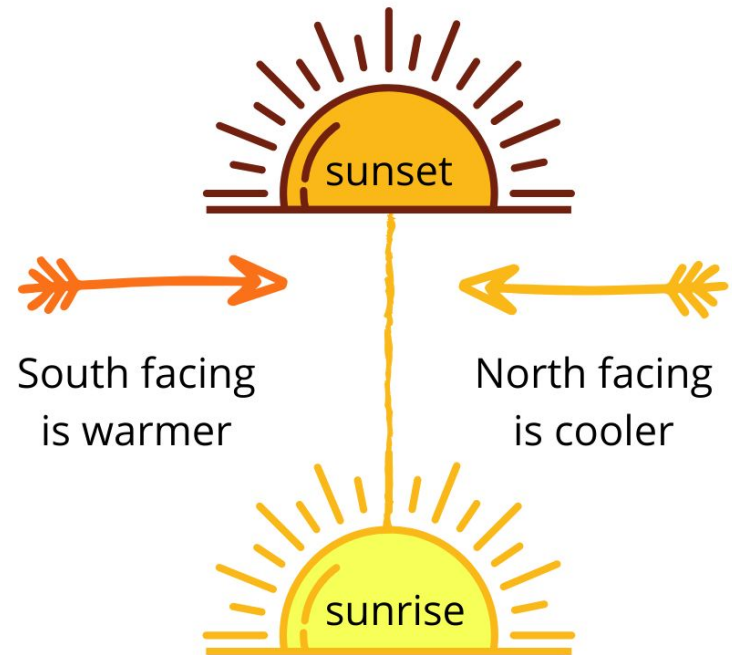
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## Urban Farming - Lesson 9 Working with the Weather

## Exposure

When choosing where to put your pots or beds you will need to have primarily south facing those plants that like a lot of sun.

See where the sun sets on day. That is west. To your right (north) you will have less sun and cooler temperatures. To your left (south) you will have more sun and higher temperatures.



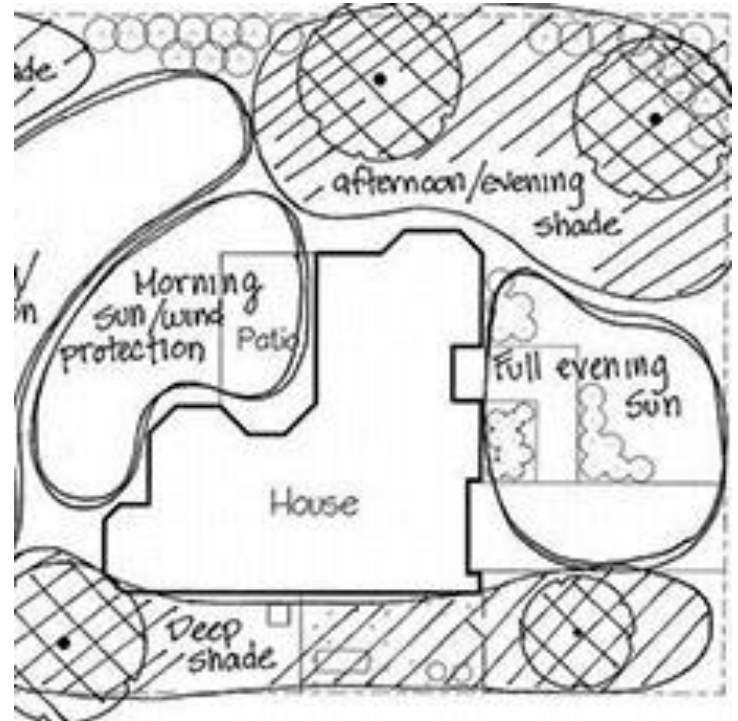


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[Image credit](#)

## Exposure

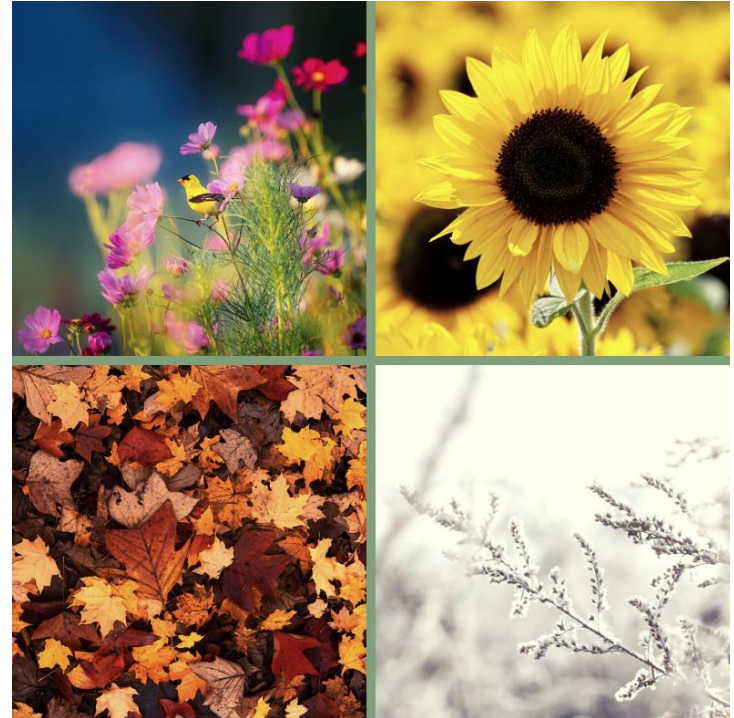
Exposure is very important in urban farming as the buildings throw big shadows. Draw a top view of your balcony, yard or garden, divide it into areas and number each area. Observe the exposure every 2 hours and take notes of the exposure. Now add notes to your drawing for full sun (6 hours), full shade (6 hours), partial sun (morning sun) or partial shade (morning shade)



## Temperatures

Each plant will have sowing and harvesting times but in general most of the planting happens in the spring after the frost has stopped and the last of the harvesting will happen in the autumn before the frost sets in.

Full winter planting is possible in greenhouses.



## Sun

Too much sun can damage certain plants. You can use shading fabric on hoops across the bed or plant shade plants next to plants the prefer less light.

Erect a fence east-west with shading fabric and put sun sensitive plants on the north facing side.



## Rain

Rainwater is better for your plants than than tap water, but too much of it can saturate your soil.

Make your raised beds high, with plenty of wood and straw at the bottom for drainage. Use crate and fabric pots on your balcony, make sure they have excellent drainage.

[Image from](#)



## Wind

A little wind now and again can be good but too much can damage your plants.

Find out which direction your wind comes from and put in some windbreak mesh or grow hedges if necessary

Stake your plants or put them in cages also.



## Cold

Greenhouses can help. Having the plants facing south can help.

You can make a big compost pile next to the veggie garden and have a water hose running through it and into your greenhouse to keep it warm.



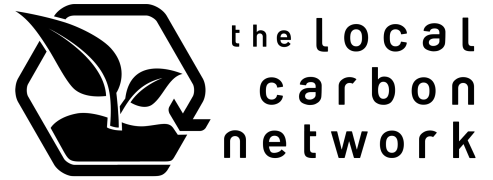


## Hail

Use some hail netting to protect your veggies.

If you have hoops in place and roll up the sides partially to work you can put a single or double layer of bird net (according to how much shade you want) and that will take care of shade, hail, birds and other animals in one go.





The next lesson explains how to build your garden beds...

If you have any questions please write to us in the Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/LocalCarbonNetwork>

or keep an eye out for our newsletter as we often arrange free online Q&A sessions on ZOOM

or see our FAQ, Articles and videos on the website <https://localcarbon.net/>

Thanks!