Hanging Basket Informational Guide

City of Worthington
Department of Public Service
380 Highland Ave.
Worthington, Ohio 43085
614-431-2425
The following is an informational guide on the City of Worthington’s hanging baskets. The City of Worthington has contracted out the assembly of the baskets in the past; however, beginning in 2002, the City performs all functions in-house - purchasing materials, assembly, hanging, maintenance, and removal.

**NUMBER OF BASKETS:** 109 total with 91 along downtown streets and 18 at City buildings.

**BASKET DESCRIPTION:** The following material is used for the baskets:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Where Purchased</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Basket</td>
<td>24” black plastic coated metal</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>Braun Horticulture 1-800-246-6984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Moss Mat</td>
<td>24” green moss covering a wood fiber mat liner</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>Braun Horticulture 1-800-246-6984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Soil</td>
<td>Baccto/Bark 1000 Planting Mix</td>
<td>109 bags</td>
<td>Buckeye Resources 937-462-8346</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Flowers</td>
<td>6” Red (Pelargonium) Geraniums</td>
<td>4 geraniums per basket</td>
<td>Acorn Farms 614-891-9348</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Greenery</td>
<td>4” Variegated Vinca Vine (Vinca Major)</td>
<td>5 vinca per basket</td>
<td>Acorn Farms 614-891-9348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Greenery</td>
<td>4 1/2 inch Spike (Dracaena indivisa)</td>
<td>1 per basket</td>
<td>Acorn Farms 614-891-9348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Water Absorber</td>
<td>Soil Moist (crystals expand when wet, holding in moisture) with endomycorrhizal fungi</td>
<td>68 lbs (10 oz per basket)</td>
<td>JRM Chemical 800-962-4010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Root Stimulator</td>
<td>Ferti-Lome Stimulator</td>
<td>3.5 gallons (4 oz per basket)</td>
<td>Oakland Nursery 614-268-3511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Plastic Bags</td>
<td>Tough Guy 2.0 mil 22x20x48</td>
<td>100 bags</td>
<td>Grainger 614-846-5220</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BASKET ASSEMBLY

- Time: 20 minutes per basket
- 3 persons: 1 to fill soil, 1 to add Soil Moist & wet, 1 to plant.
- Instructions:
  1. Place moss in basket, lining the inside of the basket;
  2. Place plastic bag liner on top of moss;
  3. Staple the plastic bag to the moss;
  4. Puncture the bag/moss 20 times to allow water through;
  5. Fill basket 1/2 full with soil;
  6. Add Soil Moist;
  7. Using water mixed with Root Stimulator, wet soil to expand soil moist;
  8. Wait one day allowing Soil Moist to expand and absorb water; and
  9. Add additional soil and plants 2 inches below lip of liner, leaving a reservoir for water.

Baskets are lined up for assembly.

Baskets are lined with moss, a plastic bag, then filled with soil.

Lining baskets with moss and plastic.

Unloading plants.
HANGING OF THE BASKETS
- Use large U-bolts with 1"x1/2" metal bars (about 36" in length) and attach to street light pole.
- Use an Ariel Lift Truck “bucket truck” to hang and remove the baskets.

GENERAL TIMELINE
- Order flowers and greenery from nursery in mid-winter
- Assembly - mid May
- Hanging of Baskets - mid/late May (when assembly finished)
- Take down Baskets - late October (before hanging Christmas decorations)

BASKET MAINTENANCE
WATERING
- Water baskets Monday, Wednesday, and Friday (modify for holiday schedule, i.e. if Monday is holiday, water Tues., Wed., and Fri.)
- Use 1 1/2 lbs of Miracle-Gro per 200 gallon tank once each week, water only other two times
- Do not need to water baskets, ONLY if receive 1/2 inch of rainfall the previous day.
- Instructions
  ⇒ 30 second count for each basket, then 60 second count for each basket. Alternating baskets between counts allows water to soak in rather than run off. Total Time: 1.5 min.
  (Calibrate times based on volume of water from your sprayer).
  ⇒ Should use 4 full tanks of water for the 100 baskets.
  ⇒ 3 tank refills x 200 gallon water tank = 600 gallons for 109 baskets
     = 5 1/2 gallons of water per basket.
  ⇒ Attach long handle spray nozzle to hose to reach basket.

DEADHEADING
- Deadhead flowers every other week using a ladder.

STAFFING
- 1 seasonal worker at 30 hours a week after installation
WATER TRUCK AND TANK

TRUCK
- Chevrolet full size pick up

WATER TANK
- capacity: 200 gallons
- Equipped with 100 ft. 5/8" hose on an electrical retractable hose reel
- Tank and Hose Reel are skid mounted and is friction fitted into truck bed and is easily removed for storage.
- The water tank has a spot to attach a regular hose, fitted with a fire hydrant adapter. This hose is used to fill the water tank from a fire hydrant.

SIGN BOARD
- Cab mounted arrow director

RADIO
- Two-way radio

Any questions regarding Worthington's hanging planter program should be directed to Mark Jans, Maintenance Supervisor (614) 431-2425