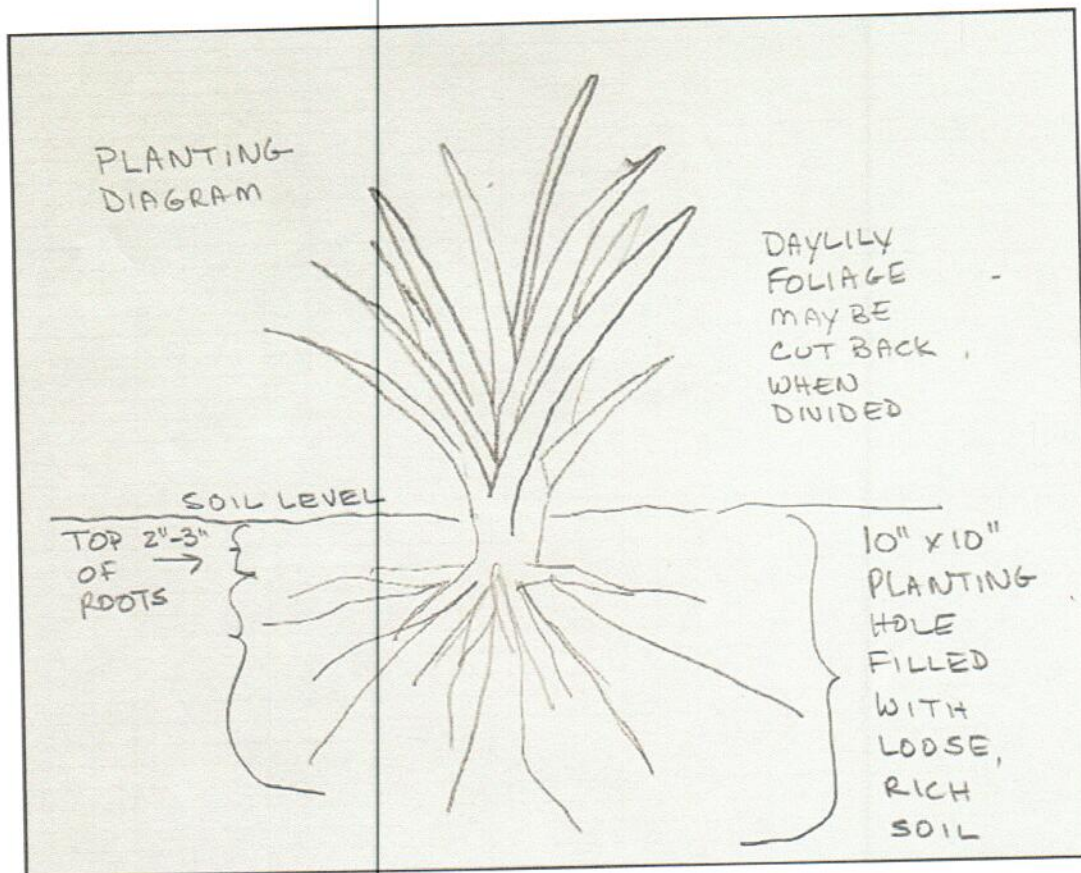


## Care and Planting of Daylilies

Daylilies (*Hemerocallis*) are easy to grow, long lasting, and one of our most satisfactory landscape flowers. With a little bit of care in the choice of plants, a daylily bed can bloom from June to September and be so thick little weeding is required. Because of their low maintenance and hardiness, daylilies make a great landscape plant. Use them as a ground cover to hold banks, as borders along fences and walks, in container gardens, and in decorative beds.

Daylilies will grow in any well drained soil, preferring half to full sun. When choosing a new planting site, remember that daylily flowers “pull” towards the light. Though daylilies can survive anywhere, soil should be improved prior to planting with organic material such as compost or peat moss, and plenty of manure. Bare-root daylilies should be planted with the top of the roots about 2” deep and the roots spread out in the hole. Gently firm soil around the roots. Fresh plantings should be well watered.

Spacing of your planting depends on the variety chosen and type of planting desired. Planted on 18” centers they will fill in nicely by the second year; two to three feet is better to develop large established clumps. Daylilies are very drought tolerant, but will have nicer foliage and bloom better if watered occasionally during dry spells. They can grow in soil that is quite barren, but are very responsive to feeding with a nitrogen source. We plant daylilies in soil that has a lot of fresh manure well worked in, and feed in successive years with a small handful of 10-10-10 applied around each plant two or three times during the growing season and then watering well. Daylilies from pots should be planted at the same soil level and otherwise as above. These plants are very winter hardy, no special mulching is necessary. After snow has left in the spring, rake flower beds to remove old foliage, leaves, etc., and give an early feeding as soon as fresh tips start to actively grow. Division of established plants can take place any time from April to early September, though foliage should be cut well back to reduce stress if digging during the summer.



**Tetraploid:** Varieties bred with twice the chromosomes, generally with larger flowers and extended blooming season.

**Height:** Average height of flowers.

**Season:** Our daylily blooming season in Sandwich begins approximately June 1 and extends through early September:

|                    |                           |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Very early season: | beginning in early June   |
| Early season:      | beginning in late June    |
| Early-mid season:  | beginning in early July   |
| Mid-season:        | beginning in mid-July     |
| Mid-late season:   | beginning in late July    |
| Late season:       | beginning in early August |
| Very late season:  | beginning in mid-August   |