

**Featured Gardener  
Cheri Fisher  
Euclid Park**



**Q: *How long have you been gardening and how did you get started?***

**A:** I grew up in Palm Springs, the oldest of three girls. My dad always had us outside helping him in the yard. He would rescue trees headed for the dump after being dug up to make room for backyard swimming pools and bring them home. We had every kind of citrus tree! The most unusual was the penderosa lemon. It produces a lemon the size of a grapefruit. My dad was the first recycler I knew.

**Q: *Describe what goes on in your garden.***

**A:** I garden in raised planter boxes which makes me mindful of the kind and size of vegetables and flowers I can grow. In the spring/summer, it's all about tomatoes, chives, basil and peppers.

**Q: *How much time do you spend in your garden plot?***

**A:** My raised beds require more watering than those with clay soil. I spend a minimum of 30 minutes, 2-3 times per week, watering and pruning. In the fall and spring, planting seeds and soil preparation takes several hours per week for several weeks.

**Q: *What was the biggest gardening mistake you ever made?***

**A:** Not keeping my seeds and seedling moist. They really are delicate and need a lot of water and attention until well rooted.

**Q: *What was the best thing you ever did related to gardening?***

**A:** I love to share the experience of gardening with others who may be physically-challenged and love to share what I grow with others.

**Q: *What have you learned since becoming a gardener and any advice to new gardeners just starting out?***

**A:** Patience, patience and more patience!