**PLANTING DAY CHECKLIST**

What to Do on the Big Day!

- **Check tools.** Ensure all garden tools are beside garden location first thing in the morning:
  - Rakes
  - Water key for outside faucets
  - Label sticks
  - Plant protectors
  - Shovels
  - Enough hose to reach the whole garden
  - Marker pens
  - Mulch
  - Trowels
  - Watering cans
  - Twine
  - Scissors

  If fencing, trellises, and teepees are not already established, have all materials ready (see Infrastructure section), plus a maul or post pounder and any necessary ties.

- **Check transplants.** Early in the morning, make sure all transplants have been well watered and are ready to go.

- **Carry-out.** Take all seeds and plants to the garden before students arrive and make sure you know where everything is going to go.

- **Review.** Check the “Planting Guide” one more time for a reminder of how each kind of plants or seeds should be planted.

- **Lay out.** Go over garden layout with students and have them walk down pathways as a way of defining planting areas (unless raised beds have been established).

- **Follow directions.** Follow the “Planting Guide” for handling seeds and transplants. Special care must be taken in removing plants from containers. Burying transplants deeply to cover lower half of stems helps successful rooting. Install plant protectors if necessary.

- **Water.** Everything needs to be watered as soon as possible, especially if the ground is dry and the weather is hot on planting day. Soak transplants deeply and sprinkle direct-sown seeds gently but enough to thoroughly wet ground. Continuing to keep the ground wet for the first two weeks is essential. For seed beds, this might mean watering every 1-2 days if there is no rain.

- **Follow up.** Plan check ups on the garden to keep tabs on your plants’ progress and overall health. It is especially important to ensure that all plants and seeds are receiving adequate water!