



WEEKLY WEEDER

December 15, 2022

1. December 31 is the Deadline For Completing Fall Service Hours
2. Started: Plant Sale Propagation
3. Garden Education by Ila Falvey
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Seashell cosmos by Susan Van Haitsma

December 31 is the Deadline For Completing Fall

Service Hours!

Fall service hours must be completed by December 31st and recorded in [Green Binder](#) by January 7th. This will be the first season that the penalty will be in effect for failure to timely record hours by the deadline. A gardener recording late will receive only 75% of the credit requested. For example, a gardener requesting credit for 4 service hours worked, but not recorded timely, would receive credit for only 3 hours (75% of 4). Gardeners joining Sunshine prior to July 1, 2022, will be billed for unworked hours. New gardeners joining July 1, 2022, or later, must work all of their service hours and may not pay for unworked hours.

All gardeners are encouraged to check the Green Binder and verify that their service hours for the fall season are correctly recorded. This is the best way to avoid surprises when bills are sent out in mid-January. Based on what they find in Green Binders, gardeners should take one or more of following actions:

- record hours worked but not recorded
- complete and record unworked hour by the deadlines (Dec. 31 to work; Jan. 7 to record)
- contact zone coordinator to request a waiver if eligible
- report any errors in Green Binder data to the Sunshine secretary (kerry@sunshinecommunitygardens.org)
- pat themselves on the back for having completed and recorded all their service hours.

Gardeners who believe they may qualify for a waiver for all or part of their fall service hours should contact their zone coordinator to discuss (e.g., because of a health condition.) Thank you for helping us keep the community running smoothly at Sunshine Community Garden! —
Submitted by The Community Garden Board



Rain on a rose by Susan Van Haitsma



Started: Plant Sale Propagation

New sprouts in Sunshine's greenhouse! On December 10h, a team led by Suzanne Bradford and Dawn Friesen planted herb seeds for our annual Plant Sale (which raises funds to keep costs low for individual gardeners). Thank you!

We can all start plants for the sale. Some gardeners find passalongs in their gardens, but I am starting native milkweed seeds using the germination information found at wildflower.org. Fingers crossed! —
Submitted by Marsha Riti.

Garden Education by Ila Falvey

There is a [free webinar from Johnny's Seeds](#) on new herbs and vegetables. Tuesday, December 20, 2022 at 2pm EST

Check out this month's gardening wisdom from [Austin Organic Gardeners](#) (and note that they have a very interesting talk coming up on January 9th on Racial equity in the food system -- see their homepage).

We are coming up in on winter solstice and we just passed the Cold [Moon](#), a name used by the Mohawk people, this Moon occurs when winter cold fastens its grip.

We are now going into a waning period of the Moon—from the day after it is full to the day before it is new again. As the moonlight decreases night by night, plants are encouraged to grow roots, tubers, and bulbs. It's always best to try to plant with the coming rains which are in the forecast.

DIRECT SEED OUTDOORS

- [Bulbing Onions](#) (from transplants)
- [Radishes](#)
- [Turnips](#)

SEED INDOORS/TRANSPLANT

- Leeks
- Chives
- Bunching Onions

MORE IDEAS

For more ideas on Ornamentals, Perennials, and Herbs, visit the [Central Texas Gardener](#) and [The Natural Gardener](#) lists online. Download the [Texas A&M Extension Planting Chart](#) and [Varieties](#).

Garden Tasks by Steve Camp

Howdy SCG Gardeners!

During the last two weeks of December, 2 zone coordinators and I will be looking at all garden plots for out of compliance conditions before the billing cycle in January. Now is a good time to visit your plot and check for issues that might affect you or your relationship with SCG.

ATTENTION!! - If you believe that you are the last person leaving the garden in evening, please CLOSE AND LOCK THE TRAILER! Any SCG garden member knows the combination and can let themselves in should the need arise.

NEXT SCHEDULED WORKDAY - Saturday, the 17th of June, 9-11am.
Luda Vostok will lead.

Workdays often evolve into social events! SCG is a fantastic place to meet new friends and learn both new and old gardening techniques. There's a wealth of knowledge here and experienced people that love to share it.

NEW GARDENERS

There are several new gardeners at SCG! Please don't hesitate to introduce yourself and y'all get to know each other a little and share garden knowledge and tips. Let's emphasize the COMMUNITY in Community Garden.

ROADS AND PARKING

- Speed limit is 3 MPH. (Primarily for safety, but also to keep the dust down.)
- Sunshine's roads provide access to plots and common areas. Gardeners should not 1) park on roads except to unload a heavy load from vehicle, 2) drive on roads when wet, 3) drive around

barriers, 4) drive into another gardener's plot, or 5) put plants or other items in the road.

- Cars may not be left idling while at the garden.
- Park only in the front parking area or your common area. On weekends there are parking spaces on Sunshine and 49th Street.

Handbook and Site rules specifically state that PARKING ON GARDEN ROADS IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. Park in the parking lot or common areas only. When the emergency vehicle enters SCG, they may (I hope not) be coming to assist YOU. How inconvenient it would be for them to have to wait for folks to move cars.

At some point soon the entrance will be closed for 3-5 hours while asphalt operations are performed. We will send out an email blast when that happens.

PRIORITY TASKS

- Mowing and Trimming Fenceline and lawn on either side of fence.

Note the North, East and South fenceline now have a number assigned to each panel. It is on a brass ring hanging on the panel. Please, either you or a small group please sign up for a panel that you will work to keep clean and neat looking. It may have certain vines on it if you wish. Check with leaders about which vines are best.
- Khaki Weed Season is Upon Us! For the uninitiated, Khaki weed is an invasive plant that infects the garden in late spring, summer, and fall. We are determined every year to eradicate it as much as possible. To this end, we are allowing digging up khaki weed to be counted as TSVBI hours until further notice.
- Maintaining common paths and common areas. If you have plants extending into common paths, trim them. The common paths are designed to allow the biggest wheelbarrows that we own to traverse them unimpeded.

TSVBI

- Weeding paths in TSBVI garden and wood chip areas on west side. (This is normally needed. Try to get out roots. Be sure to smooth out paths after weeding to facilitate TSBVI students moving around garden). Mowing between fence and street along 49th St. and Sunshine Dr. along and 10' inside fence.

- PICKING UP TRASH WHEREVER YOU SEE IT
- Cleaning the street curb gutters of dirt and debris buildup. (At places in the curb gutter along Sunshine Dr. And 49th St. soil has built up and grass is beginning to grow. Scrape off with shovel and put in wheelbarrow. If debris is gravel it can be put in low places in the parking lot, otherwise, destination is dumpster.

Note: TSVBI hours can also count as regular hours.

REGULAR

- Maintaining common paths. (Gardeners are required to maintain a 2' strip of common paths adjacent to their plot.)
- Mowing, edging (Please check area around trailer and greenhouses). The mowing season is picking up (if it ever rains, it will pick up exponentially.) It's way easier to keep it mowed than try to catch up when it gets overgrown.
- Mowing and cleaning up overgrown/messy places in common areas.

Your Zone Coordinator may have more tasks than are listed here. Contact them or campinthegarden@yahoo.com if you feel that you have run out of things to do.

Slow Down (3 MPH!) You're on Garden Time! Enjoy!

Contact both [Kristin Phillips](#) & [Maria Beach](#) to contribute the Weekly Weeder.



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