



WEEKLY WEEDER

June 29, 2023 (sent June 30th)

1. Service Hours Due Soon
2. Watermelon (and Harvest Salad) Time!
3. Compost Pile in the News!
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If you need SCG service hours, clearing common pathways is a good option or ask your zone coordinator for suggestions. If you need TSBVI service hours weeding the pathways in the TSBVI garden (do not weed-in- the garden beds) or removing khaki weed applies. Check the Green Binder to see how many spring hours you currently have. — *Submitted by Marsha Riti*



Photo by Frank Genco

Watermelon Time!

Just in time for the weekend: a delicious harvest photo from Frank Genco ... his first watermelon success, grown from a plant!

Meanwhile, here is the recipe mentioned in last week's Weeder, made for the tomato tasting event:

Carol Limaye's recipe

Cucumber salad

This salad recipe is very forgiving and can be adjusted according to taste. It is based on an East Indian salad and you can add yogurt to make it a raita.

2 large cucumbers (peeled, seeded and diced)
1 medium to large tomato (seeded as necessary and diced, but can be chunkier than the cucumbers)
1 Tbsp. minced onion
1 Tbsp. chopped cilantro (plus leaves for garnish)
2 Tbsp. Dijon mustard
½ Tsp. whole cumin seed
½ Tsp. salt (use less if using salted peanuts)
¼ cup crushed roasted and unsalted peanuts

Put the prepared cucumber, tomato, onion and cilantro in a bowl. Add the remaining ingredients and mix well. Season to taste. Add cilantro leaves for garnish. —

Submitted by Frank Genco and Carol Limaye



Compost Pile in the News!

Check out a [post by Austin Kleon](#) featuring our compost pile!

Monday Evening Work Crew

Marsha Jen Hank Gabe



Monday Evening Workday

Monday afternoon workday was a success! Thank you: Jen, Hank, Gabe and Meredith (not pictured). We cleared two TSBVI beds of purslane, we also removed khaki weed, and cleaned up some common pathways. Y'all did great especially considering it was 100 degrees. — Submitted by Marsha Riti

Children's Garden Update

This morning Maple became the newest gardener in the Children's Garden. Pam Kirby made the process easy and fun! As we signed the paperwork and hammered the numbered plaque to the 3'x3' bed Maple was already thinking about the plants she was going to grow. When a child grows a plant they also grow gratitude for the food they eat and the planet they live on. Sign your little one up for a garden or share this opportunity with a child in your life. All they need is a sponsor from the garden and a \$5 dollar fee. Contact Pam Kirby for more information: pkirby@gmail.com
— Submitted by Marsha Riti

Save the Date

For

ACGA's Annual Conference:

Celebrating the Diversity of Growing



Sept. 27-30, 2023. Houston, TX.

Share your community gardening ideas, insights, stories, and research as a presenter at the ACGA Houston 2023 conference. Fill out their request for proposals here: <https://docs.google.com/forms>

[/d/e/1FAIpQLSdP5mdVslnxF4K3M5aKYUrbC3XQxD4Nq_9G9QvRs7LDh_BIA/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdP5mdVslnxF4K3M5aKYUrbC3XQxD4Nq_9G9QvRs7LDh_BIA/viewform) — Submitted by Marsha Riti

Garden Seventeen Closing

Garden Seventeen is closing. They are having a sale until they have sold out of everything. We will miss this garden store. They added vibrancy and inclusiveness to our Austin gardening community. Please support them while they are still open. — Submitted by Marsha Riti

Garden Education by Ila Falvey

As you are digging up and disposing of your spent plants, pay attention to its roots. If the roots have large bumps they are probably infected with root-knot nematodes.

Susan Hoberman sent me this very informative article about root knot nematodes.

Garden Notes from Marsha Riti

The lovely icons for this section were created by Marsha Riti



Heat Advisory

Summer is here so please take caution when working in the garden. Stay hydrated, wear sunscreen, and a hat. Also, remember we have a "cool room" in the trailer where the AC is running, and there are popsicles in the freezer. Please read this article from the CDC about [Heat Stress Related Illness](#).



Service Hours are Due

Sunshine Community Garden and TSVBI service hours are due at the end of this month. If you are unsure how many hours you have left to work please check the [Green Binder](#).



General Workday

TBD



Beautification Committee Workday

Need service hours? There is always a workday every Sunday (9-12pm) in the flower beds around the trailer. Hosted by Matthew Johnston.



Kid's Garden!

Thanks to the volunteerism of Sunshine gardeners, Sunshine is ready to get young members of the community gardening. While there is more to come, in terms of tools for the kids and shade areas, the beds are ready for the kids to start planting!

Gardeners who made contact about sponsoring a child aged 5-11 will be contacted soon by the Children's Garden Zone Coordinator, Pam Kirby. We still have some available beds for children. If you are a garden member in good standing and wish to sponsor a child who would enjoy gardening in his or her own 3x3 bed, contact [Pam](#) for further information.



OMG, Cars, slow down!

Please drive slowly (3 MPH) in the garden. There are cats, kids, and gardeners who use this space, and we need it to be safe for everyone.



Mowers and Weed Whackers

Don't know how to use the gas or electric grass cutting equipment? Please contact:

[Steve Camp](#) (electric mowers / weed wackers)

[Ray Porter](#) (gas mowers)



More grass than garden?

Please clean up your plot. If you have health issues that are keeping you from working on your plot contact your Zone Coordinator or the Vice President for assistance. Also, if you'd like to fallow your plot for the rest of the summer, posted below is how to do that (taken from page 28 of the Handbook). Please make sure your Zone Coordinator or Vice President knows you are fallowing your plot.

Fallow Season or Cover Crop

Occasionally, members may choose to leave a plot fallow for a season. This is a good practice to provide the soil a break. Fallow plots should be cleared of plants and weeds, then covered completely with compost and then cardboard, a thick layer of leaves, or other material that allows water to permeate. Avoid using plastic as it creates a good environment for fire ants underneath, and water pools on top. An alternative to a fallow season is to plant a cover crop to serve as green manure; this can be turned under at the end of the season to condition the soil. Consult the literature or local garden center for details on this technique for soil improvement.

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



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