



WEEKLY WEEDER

August 24, 2023

Whittlesey Super Rooster Compost Drop on Thursday 8/24

For massive fall veggies, get your 5 gallon buckets for \$2.00 per bucket. There is a limit to how much compost you can get: 20 buckets per full size plot. 10 buckets per half size plot. 5 buckets per quarter size plot. Cash, check, or PayPal payment. PayPal link is on the website. Payments by check or cash (no coins please) go in the dropbox. Compost payments should be made when compost is moved to your plot. Don't forget, IOUs are no longer accepted.— *Submitted by Marsha Riti*

Got a Weeder Story? New Editors!

Please submit content for the Weeder to [Maria Beach](#) and [Margaret Clapp](#). Their names are also listed at the bottom of each Weeder.



Image of cabbage from Squeaky Frog's website

Fall Plant Sale for Sunshine Gardeners on Saturday 9/23

The Squeaky Frog Farm (former Sunshine gardeners Jen Woertz and Jeff Monks) fall plant sale for Sunshine gardeners will be Saturday 9/23 from 9 AM to 2 PM in the GardenPort greenhouse. Plants available will be broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, Brussel sprouts, leafy greens (kale, Swiss chard, etc.), and some herbs and ornamentals. The specific varieties available can be found at:

http://www.squeakyfrogfarm.com/2023_Fall_Plant_List.pdf

The price of plants for Sunshine gardeners will be \$2.00 each and not the \$2.25 shown on the website. Gardeners will select and pay for plants on the day of the sale, there is no pre-ordering. The sale is limited to Sunshine gardeners.

The record heat has made it hard to think about fall planting but the time to do so is getting close.— *Submitted by Jim Willmann*

Tomato Funnies

Bill Gaventa wanted to share a very funny series in *The New Yorker*: [Tips for a Successful Tomato Season](#) by Zoe Si.



Introducing New Zone 1 Coordinator, Bassam Zeineddine

From Bassam Zeineddine: "I was born and raised in the Country of Lebanon. After I finished school, I got a scholarship to study in Russia, where I got my master degree in engineering and a PhD in technical science. I came to America in 1994, where I got a government job teaching English to Russians in Russia. Then in 1997 I moved back to the US and started living in Austin I got my green card, then became a citizen of the United States. I worked for Kinko's, which became Fedex Office. During that time I also worked at Home Depot in the gardening department.

My hobby after work is gardening. I have a house with a big garden and lots of trees, I also have a small gardening plot at Gus Garcia Garden and also have a gardening plot in Sunshine Garden where I would like to be a Coordinator Lead. I have a lot of experience in gardening and I work well with others."

Garden Education by Ila Falvey

Passing on information from Debra Mariano!

Johnny Seeds has recently made this video/slideshow available (links below) This program is helpful for an updated understanding of tomato diseases and may enable you to select disease resistant varieties..

Tomato varieties and disease resistance: From Johnny's Seeds video

<https://www.johnnyseeds.com/growers-library/webinar/video-v270.html>

or the

Slide show pdf:

<https://www.johnnyseeds.com/growers-library/webinar/webinar-tomato-variety-trends-how-breeding-influences-your-seed-selection-slideshow-pdf.html>

Garden Notes from Marsha Riti

The lovely icons for this section were created by Marsha Riti



Stay Hydrated

With temperatures in the hundreds it is of great importance to stay hydrated. There are electrolyte packets in the cool room. Also, it would be best to not work during the heat of the day. Here's a link to the CDC heat related illness guide: illness <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/heatstress/heatreillness.html>.



Slack

Are you looking for a Sunshine Community Gardens social media space to chat with fellow gardeners? Look no further, we have Slack! This is not a new account for our garden. What is new is that we have a Slack "Pro" account for non-profits as of this week. This means we are able to retain our message history past 90 days and we have other cool new features. Check out [this link](#) to see what the pro account gets us. If you would like to [be on our Slack account](#), please join! Only Sunshine Community Gardeners are allowed on our account, so I'll be checking new Slack members against our database. Just call me your friendly Slack Bouncer.



Help Needed!!!

Our community garden needs help with:

- A social media volunteer to start and create content for a SCG TikTok account and also help post to Facebook, and Instagram. If interested contact marsha@marshariti.com
- A Silent Auction Volunteer for the 2024 spring sale. If interested contact marsha@marshariti.com
- An Entertainment Volunteer for the 2024 spring sale. If interested contact marsha@marshariti.com
- Volunteers for the Plot Helpers crew. This team of people help gardeners who are sick or are caretaking. The work is rewarding and fun! If interested please contact both Bill Gaventa: bill.gaventa@gmail.com and Bill Cason: Wccason@gmail.com

Volunteering for these roles counts towards your SCG service hours in the Green Binder.



General Workday

Details coming soon



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 [Maria Beach](#) and [Margaret Clapp](#). to contribute the Weekly Weeder.



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