

# GARDEN NOTES

## THE BABIES

.... Plant Babies that is ... we are up to our ears in little ones. The pictures are of the really young seedlings and starts at our home nursery, those which have been transitioned from the nursery to day care in the garden greenhouse and of the Garlic which has recently had its Winter frost cloth blanket removed and is growing taller and stronger by the day. We have also had some Collards and Chard which survived the Winter cold and are off and growing. Varieties (so far) include Napa Cabbage, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Onions, Tomatoes (cherries and slicers), more Fig trees and Heather is propagating Hydrangeas and Olive Trees, from cuttings. The Marion - Polk Food Bank will be supplementing this list with their annual plant start giveaway's scheduled in April, May and June, too.

## CHORES and PROJECTS

This will be an everbearing, ever-growing, evolving list, But WEED CONTROL will always be #1!! WEEDS - they are growing and we need to get at them now, in the flower rows. More to follow as the tarps are moved and more plants are set in the ground. We'll be experimenting with some new weed control fabrics this year in an effort to get them under control, require less hand intensive pulling.

CHIPS - we were finally able to move the piles of wood chips out of the parking lot and into the garden in February, into smaller piles in the garden. Time to start raking piles down so the pathways are walkable.

WATER - was returned to service 3.24 and we have at least one small leak near the greenhouse. I'll be on this one today (3.26), hoping to resolve by adjusting the hydrant fixture packing. Then on to checking the other two hydrant heads.

BOX REBUILDING - after picking up some more wood in Newberg, we'll be replacing the boxes in front of the Raspberries. Any usable, existing wood will be salvaged and used in updating other boxes on the other side of the Raspberries.

GROUND PREPARATION - the rain is starting to taper off and temperatures are starting to climb so we'll be following the lead of Mother Nature (and all of the local farmers!) and will start prepping our beds and rows by turning and fertilizing before planting...if you are good with a shovel, roto-tiller or just bored - come on out and grab a patch of ground to work!!

REBUILDING THE SHADE STRUCTURE - damages from Winter weather required its demolition but it will rise again using salvaged materials from around the garden! Alos needed to help harden off our seedling and starts before they go into the ground!

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MESSAGE CENTER - I'll be re-tasking the chalkboard currently sitting on the garage to include information such as this list of chores and projects; weekly updates on our donation totals; maybe even a recipe of the week on one side. The other side will have a map of the garden posted to it for tracking of infrastructure updates (water line repairs, new structures / improvements); planting schemes, rotations, successions and a wish list for your notes, suggestions, ideas to be posted. The board will sit just inside the garage door and will be accessible any time the door is open and could also be rolled into church for review during your post service meals.

## PICTURES

Not sure why (likely USER ISSUES as my technology side is not very strong). I do not seem to be able to download and transfer pictures right now from my phone, SO, the challenge is to you all - please come take a stroll through the garden and see what we're up to (that was the theme of the pictures).

## CALENDAR

### APRIL

TULIP FESTIVAL!

1 - ALL FOOLS DAY

13 - PALM SUNDAY

20 - EASTER SUNDAY

22 - EARTH DAY

26 - 10 am, MPFS Plant Give-Away Day, Chemeketa CC Student Farm, Salem

Chores

Best Fishing Days - 3, 4, 5, 23, 24

### MAY

3 - DERBY DAY

10 - 10 am, MPFS Plant Give-Away Day, Chemeketa CC Student Farm, Salem

11 - MOTHERS DAY

24 - 10 am, MPFS Plant Give-Away Day, Chemeketa CC Student Farm, Salem

26 - MEMORIAL DAY

Chores

Best Fishing Days - 1, 2, 10, 11, 12, 20, 21, 29

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## JUNE

24 - 10 am, MPFS Plant Give-Away Day, Chemeketa CC Student Farm, Salem

15- FATHERS DAY

20 - FIRST DAY OF SUMMER

Chores

Best Fishing Days - 8, 14, 16, 17,

## **THANKS ALL!**

Heather and Andy Brophy

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