

GARDEN NOTES

WHERE HAS WALDO BEEN?

Here we are at the 13th of June and I've not sent out an update in who can remember how long? We have been VERY busy the past several weeks in prepping planting beds and then, PLANTING! To date between Marion-Polk Food Share and our garage starter nursery we've been able to get an estimated 800 to 900 individual plants into the ground with many more to come! Our Plant Whisperer, a very special friend by the name of Xuan Xuan (Shin-Shin) Villeneuve has been responsible for getting most of these plantings in the ground as well as filling in for us at one of the four annual plant distributions while we were away. This is Xuan Xuan's third year of helping in any way she can (including donations of plant starts and seeds) and we would be lost without her!

Another volunteer I need to mention here is Margaret McGregor. Margaret came to us through a Kiwanis connection and is our head Weed Warden - always willing to chip in and do all she can to get rid of the weeds (a daunting task at best as you've seen from my previous writings!!).

BUGS and WEEDS and SUCH ...

We are always looking for more help with weeding and insect control. In the next several weeks we could also use some help with harvest - plants will be coming on-line and ready to go to the food bank. Once harvested, the planter will be turned over and re-planted with Fall / Winter varieties..

We are trying a new weed control fabric which if it works will reduce our load (but not our need!). This fabric comes with pre-punched holes for the plants and is applied over the top of our irrigation lines. The fabric cooks the weeds beneath and does not allow much sunlight to reach the weed leaves. Another benefit of this material is that it slows the evaporation of irrigation water, which will reduce the amount of water we apply (and pay for!).

PROJECTS

(grab one/make it yours or let me know you are interested, and we will get you involved!)

CHIP DISTRIBUTION

EXPANDED GROWING AREA (behind HeadStart)

MEADOW AREA (behind the Entry Garden - former blackberry patch)

UPDATE GARDEN SIGNAGE

GARDEN ART

DONATE / TRANSPLANT RASPBERRY STARTS

REBUILD SHADE STRUCTURE

GARDEN NOTES

PICTURES



Our Greenhouse - full to the rafters (trees in the back!); Block 2 plantings underway



Nighttime visitors left some tracks; Block 4 planted and growing strong!

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"My Buddy" - always at my side (really in the back seat of the truck these days), always ready for a ride and new adventure...if you are by the garden and my truck is parked at the entry, she'll be in the back seat and always welcomes a scratch, pat on the head, treat (Daisy says treats are much preferred, thank you).....

CALENDAR

Q2 2025 - P.3

GARDEN NOTES

JUNE

8 - Children's Day

15 - FATHERS DAY

20 - Start of SUMMER

Best Fishing Days - 8, 14, 16, 17

JULY

3 - Dog Days Begin

4 - INDEPENDENCE DAY

Best Fishing Days - 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

AUGUST

11 - Dog Days End

14 - V.J. Day

Best Fishing Days - 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 18, 19

SEPTEMBER

1 - LABOR DAY

7 - Grandparents Day

17 - Citizenship Day

28 - GOLD STAR MOTHERS DAY

Best Fishing Days -

TRAINING CLASSES

In case you might have forgotten or need some extra details on how they work, we'll be offering some continuing education courses on the safe use of the following:

(ALL LESSONS INCLUDE RIGHT and LEFT HAND INSTRUCTION!)

Shovels - best grip, how not to break the handle, you can use them as a snow sled in a pinch

Hoes - proper blade angle to get more weeds per pass, sharpening the blade

Pitchforks - always keep the pokey part aimed up when not in use, how to cook a Hot Dog

Wheelbarrows - not only for transporting soil and compost, how to also turn it into a lawn chair.

THANKS ALL!

Heather and Andy Brophy

jhhhgg2659@gmail.com