

Community Garden

at Community of Christ

990 Meridian Ave., San Jose

Founded 2017

June, 2022 – Newsletter #24



"Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad." ~Unknown

Juneteenth Freedom Festival

at Grateful Gardens SJ - 990 Meridian Ave

tickets are free - space is limited

RSVP to gratefulgardenssj@gmail.com

June 19, 2022 12 - 4pm

Come join the fun! We will have;

- DJ / Dance Party
- Activities for kids
- BBQ Lunch
- Storytellers

We are also looking for setup help on June 3rd, 4th and 11th.

Please contact Collette for details on how you can help. (408) 658-9776

We want to hear from you!

Have you had something exciting or strange happen while growing/tending your garden?

Are you growing something unusual or just want to share?

Send us an email and "Lettuce" know and we'll put your story or adventure in our newsletter!

ORGANIC GARDENING

We are an organic community garden. Please use only OMRI approved products including soil amendments, fertilizers, and pest control products.



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PROJECTS

Do you have time to help with some garden projects?

- Plants & tend herbs
- Weed campfire circle
- Compost pile
- Varnish Garden Signs
- Varnish benches
- Peace Par Course

Call Collette (408) 658-9776 for a chance to help!

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

www.gratefulgardenssj.com



SUMMER VEGETABLES

There's still time to put in your warm season vegetables from transplant. If you start now from seed, you simply will have a shorter harvest season.

With the unusually cool temperatures we've had this spring, you won't be too far behind vegetables planted earlier.

Warm temperatures and sunshine are part of what make your summer vegetables grow. Particularly sun-loving vegetables include tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, melons, and squash. And that includes "winter squash" which is so named because it is thick skinned and stores well over the winter.

Thank you Adel for the happy chickens



CHICKENS

If you feed the chickens, please give them organic produce only. Never give them avocado seeds or skins. Seeds, like sunflower seeds, must be shelled and organic only – they love a handful of these scattered over their fence.

ARTICHOKES!

We still have artichokes, grab them while you can!

WHAT'S NEW AND GROWING

- We currently have some watermelon and corn growing.
- There is squash on "Collette Hill".
- Soon the garden will be growing Pumpkins in preparation for the Harvest Fest



WATER CONSERVATION

As you know, we are in DROUGHT!

Consider these tips when watering your plants:

1. Individual plants should have a circle trench around them.
2. Row plants or seeds should have trenches on both sides.

Water can be applied to the trenches to encourage root growth and contain water to the plantings.

GARDEN BOXES FOR RENT
\$50 per box annually plus a refundable

\$100 security deposit.

Call (408) 658-9776 for info.

VEGETABLE PLANTING CHART

VEGETABLES	WHEN TO PLANT	NOTES
Beans (green)	Apr – July	Bush or climbing (needs support). From seeds.
Beans (shelling)	Apr – May	Need more heat and take longer to mature than green beans. From seeds.
Corn	Apr – July	Needs sun/heat. Marginal in cooler microclimates. From seeds.
Cucumbers	Apr – June	Best if grown with support.
Peppers (sweet)	April – June	Need warm nights, minimal protection in cooler microclimates. From seedlings.
Peppers (hot)	April – June	More productive than sweet peppers in cooler microclimates. From seedlings.
Squash (summer)	Apr – June	Needs lots of space & produces heavily. From seeds or seedlings.
Squash (winter) (Includes pumpkins)	Apr – June	Needs lots of space; best grown with support. Long season – plant early. From seeds or seedlings.

YEAR-ROUND VEGETABLES

Beets	Year round	Best in winter. From seeds or seedlings.
Carrots	Feb – Aug	Year round. From seeds.
Chard	Year round	Year round in cooler microclimates. From seeds or seedlings.
Collards	Year round	Best in winter. From seeds or seedlings.
Kale	Year round	Best in winter. From seeds or seedlings.
Leeks	Feb – Oct	Year round but best in winter and spring. From seeds or seedlings.
Lettuce	Year round	Year round in cooler microclimates. From seeds or seedlings.
Mustard	Year round	Best in winter. From seeds or seedlings.

VEGETABLE PLANTING CHART (Continued)

HERBS	WHEN TO PLANT	NOTES
Basil	April – June	Likes sun and heat. From seedlings.
Dill	April – June	Likes sun and heat – not good in foggy or windy gardens.
Cilantro	Year round	Year round in cooler microclimates, but best in winter or spring. From seeds in successive plantings & harvest whole plants. Sun or partial shade. Bolts quickly in warm microclimates.
Mint	Year round	Perennial; invasive, best grown in containers. Likes some shade, especially in warm months. From seedlings.
Oregano	Year round	Perennial: plant will spread. Full sun. From seedling.
Sage	Year round	Perennial; not fussy. Full sun. From seedlings.
Tarragon (French)	Year round	Perennial; dormant in winter. From seedling. Full sun.
Thyme	Year round	Perennial: plant will spread. Full sun. From seedling.

GARDENING TIPS

Reminder: stake your tomatoes while they are small and easily fit within the type of cage you choose.

PREVENTING TOMATO BLOSSOM END ROT



This relatively common garden problem is not a disease, but rather a disorder caused by a calcium imbalance within the plant.

- Prevent problems by keeping soil evenly moist
- Adding high levels of calcium — bone meal, oyster shell or gypsum — to the soil at planting time usually prevents this problem from developing.
- A layer of mulch (straw, compost, grass) will help conserve soil moisture and provide a more uniform water supply.
- Avoid using high nitrogen fertilizers which accelerate vegetative growth and reduce the uptake of calcium by plants.

The fruit is perfectly good to eat with the damaged part cut out. Some large heirloom tomatoes are more susceptible to this condition.

The glory of gardening: hands in the dirt, head in the sun, heart with nature. To nurture a garden is to feed not just the body, but the soul.
– Alfred Austin

