



Community Garden

at Community of Christ

990 Meridian Ave., San Jose

Founded 2017

July 2024—Newsletter #39



"To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow." - Audrey Hepburn

Garden happenings

JUNETEENTH



About 40 people gathered at the Grateful Gardens Sunday afternoon, June 16th, to commemorate the ending of slavery in the United States. The [Tabia African American Theater Company](#), who visited us in prior years, came and shared a celebration through readings and music and dance. This was followed by a "feast," including potatoes grown in our garden. Many thanks to our garden manager, Collette, and Community of Christ pastor Jim who organized the event, and to many others who gave of their time and efforts to celebrate with garden friends and neighbors, even in the extreme heat.

Sharing our various cultures and relationships is what makes our garden unique and sacred.

Go here to learn more about Juneteenth. [historical-legacy-juneteenth](#)



News of plantings:

- **Petra** planted an "Aloe Row" along the south fence of the garden. She's planting tomatoes in a patch near the blackberry bushes (South-East Side) and relocating some marshmallow trees to the south fence.
- **Adel** planted pumpkins between sunflowers and the fire circle.
- **Britta's** cut-flower patch is sprouting!
- **Lori, Karen, Marsha and Jim** (Community of Christ members) installed elements of the Diane Barnett Peace Arboretum! *Stroll down the lane to see the first peace poles, picket fences, and message boards.*
- **Maddie and Phil** planted a native-pollinator garden along the Diane Barnett Peace Arboretum. **Robert** (Community of Christ) has been very helpfully watering them in.
- **Bill Odea's** herb garden and no-till agriculture patch are flourishing
- **Nasrat & Hermat's** watermelons and sunflowers are also stunning
- **Karen and I** moved a horse trough to its new final-final spot to plant with bamboo. It's finally going in!

Collette,
Garden Manager

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Do you have garden questions, newsletter ideas OR have some free time? Check with Collette or Karen about projects that could use your help. please send an email to gratefulgardenssj@gmail.com

Thanks to WWW.kelloggsgarden.com for much of the information in this month's newsletter.

ORGANIC GARDENING

We are an organic community garden.

Please use only OMRI approved products including soil amendments, fertilizers, and pest control products.



Kudos and FYI's

Please help:

Adel, Bill and Nasrat do a lot to keep weeds at bay. **Adel asks for help weeding bindweed from between boxes.** If it grows into a box, it can steal a lot of nutrients from your vegetables.

Please don't feed "people food" to the chickens. They can't handle salt at all, and starches lead to egg laying problems, fatty smell-good stuff draws predators and changes their droppings. We're planting things near the chickens that can be broken off to give to them such as grass, lettuce, broccoli and kale. If you want to **please give chicken-plantings a little mercy-watering**, the chickens will thank you!



Please let Collette know if you see things needing repair at the garden. **408-658-9776**

Gardening Hints and Tips














































































































































































- Stay on top of weeds at least every other day if you can. Pull them out by the roots to prevent further growth. Also, check for insect pests and fungal problems.
- Read more at Gardening Know How: [Regional To-Do List: Maintaining Western Gardens In July](#)


















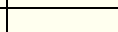


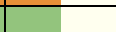

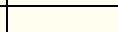









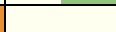





































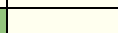











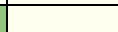











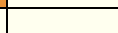



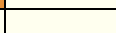

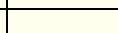


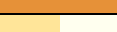

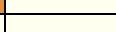

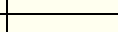






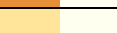




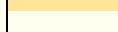


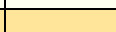


























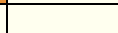
Keeping Your Gardens Cool in Summer Heat


- Water at the base of the plants.
 - This keeps the soil around the plant from drying out quickly.
 - The best time to water is early in the morning before the sun rises.
- Mulch can shade plants' roots and helps soil retain moisture for long periods of time.
- Use correct soil mixture – Using the right soil mixture (using compost) will reduce water usage and raise the nutrient content of existing soil.

July – Sept Vegetable/Herb/Fruit Guide

	Sow Seeds	Plant	Harvest			
Plant	Seeds	Plants	JUL	AUG	SEP	NOTES
Artichoke		Transplant				
Arugula	Direct Sow					
Asparagus		Transplant				Dig trench 12-18" wide and 6-8 " deep. Loosen soil deeper for best results.
Beans	Direct Sow					Direct sow.
Beets	Direct Sow					Thin to 3" apart, final spacing 5"
Bell Peppers		Transplant				Ideal Temp 80-90 degrees
Broccoli	Direct Sow	Transplant				Select a variety best suited to your climate that will mature before hot weather begins.
Brussel Sprouts		Transplant				Long growing season. Flavor improves with light frost.
Cabbage	Direct Sow	Transplant				Cooler season crop
Carrots	Direct Sow					Dislikes transplanting
Cauliflower	Direct Sow	Transplant				Brassica family.
Celery		Transplant				Thin to 10-12 inches when seedlings have 3-4 true leaves.
Collards	Direct Sow					Brassica family.
Corn	Direct Sow					Needs to be planting in rows for pollination.
Cucumbers	Direct Sow	Transplant				Consider growing vertically on support structures.
Edamame	Direct Sow					Long growing season. Succession plant for continual harvest.
Eggplant		Transplant				Transplant to garden or container.

Endive	Direct Sow		   	 		Direct Sow and thin to 6-12 inches apart
Fava Beans	Direct Sow		   	  		Prefers cooler weather.
Garlic	Direct Sow	Transplant	  	 	 	Planting in Fall yields larger bulbs.
Gourds	Direct Sow	Transplant	   	   		Plant in hills that are well-spaced.
Green Beans	Direct Sow		  	    		Grow on support structure such as teepees.
Horseradish		Transplant	   	 		Plant root cuttings 18 inches apart in trenches 3 to 4 inches deep.
Leeks		Transplant	 			Onion family
Lettuce	Direct Sow	Transplant	  	    		Plant in succession
Okra		Transplant	 			Soak seeds overnight before planting.
Parsnips	Direct Sow		   	   		Direct sow 1" apart in wide rows. Thin to 3-4".
Potatoes		Transplant	   			Give potato seeds a head start by pre-sprouting or chitting them before planting.
Pumpkins	Direct Sow	Transplant	   	    		
Radishes	Direct Sow			  		Plant in succession.
Rhubarb		Transplant	  	   		Possible to plant from seed, but less successful. Planting rhizomes recommended. Heavy feeders.
Rutabagas	Direct Sow		   			Direct sow 1-2" apart in wide rows. Thin to 8 inches
Shallots	Direct Sow	Transplant	   	 		Onion family
Snap Peas	Direct Sow		 	    		Plant in succession. Use support structure.
Soybean	Direct Sow		 	    		
Spinach	Direct Sow	Transplant	   	    		Plant in succession for continual harvest.
Squash	Direct Sow	Transplant	 	    		Consider growing on support structure.
Sweet Potatoes		Transplant	   	  		Grown from slips, not seeds. 50 Sprouts per slip. Wider spacing produces larger sweet potatoes.
Tomatoes		Transplant	   	     		May require staking. Transfer to to bed or planter.
Zucchini	Direct Sow	Transplant	   	   		Plant 3-4 seeds per mound 4 inches high.
Basil	Direct Sow	Transplant	   	    		Direct sow.
Catnip	Direct Sow		   	 		Mint Family
Chives	Direct Sow	Transplant	  	    		Cut six to eight inches from the top of the plants. This allows vigorous growth throughout the season.

Cilantro (Slow Bolt)	Direct Sow		     	Direct sow.
Coriander	Direct Sow		     	Start indoors or direct sow. Thin seedlings to 8-10 inches.
Dill	Direct Sow		     	Direct sow.
Fennel	Direct Sow		     	Direct sow to avoid transplant shock. Not a good companion plant. Plant outside of vegetable garden.
Goldenrod	Direct Sow	Transplant	     	Attracts beneficial insects.
Lavender	Direct Sow	Transplant	     	Direct sow spring or summer. Wound and digestive remedies. The herb can be harvested in the summer when just coming into flower (now) and can be dried for later use. The roots can be dug and boiled for a salad as they are starchy with a nutty taste.
Lavender (French - Purple Ribbon)	Direct Sow	Transplant	     	Mint family, Medicinal anti-viral, attracts pollinators
Lavender Lavandula vera	Direct Sow	Transplant	     	Mint family, Medicinal anti-viral, attracts pollinators
Lemon Balm	Direct Sow	Transplant	     	Quick to self-propagate.
Mint		Transplant	     	Quick to self-propagate,
Mustard	Direct Sow		     	
Oregano		Transplant	     	Mint Family
Parsley	Direct Sow	Transplant	     	Carrot family
Roselle (Red) Hibiscus sabdariffa		Transplant	     	Produces when days get shorter
Rosemary		Transplant	     	Mint Family. Slow to germinate with 30% success rate.
Sage	Direct Sow	Transplant	     	Thin and transplant when 2 true sets of leaves are present.
Tarragon	Direct Sow	Transplant	     	Start seeds indoors. Low light. Room temperature.
Thyme		Transplant	     	Mint family. Thinly scatter seeds and sprinkle with soil.
Blackberries		Transplant	     	Stratify seeds. Once seedlings are 4 inches in height, they can be planted outdoors.
Blueberries		Transplant	     	Start seeds in trays for later transplant.
Cantaloupes	Direct Sow	Transplant	     	Direct sow 2-3 seeds per hill.
Grapes		Transplant	     	Plant seedling vines 6-10 feet apart.
Honeydew	Direct Sow	Transplant	     	Direct sow 2-3 seeds per hill.
Raspberries		Transplant	     	
Strawberries		Transplant	     	Plant in mounded rows.

Watermelon	Direct Sow	Transplant		Direct sow 2-3 seeds per hill.
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Milpitas Food Pantry

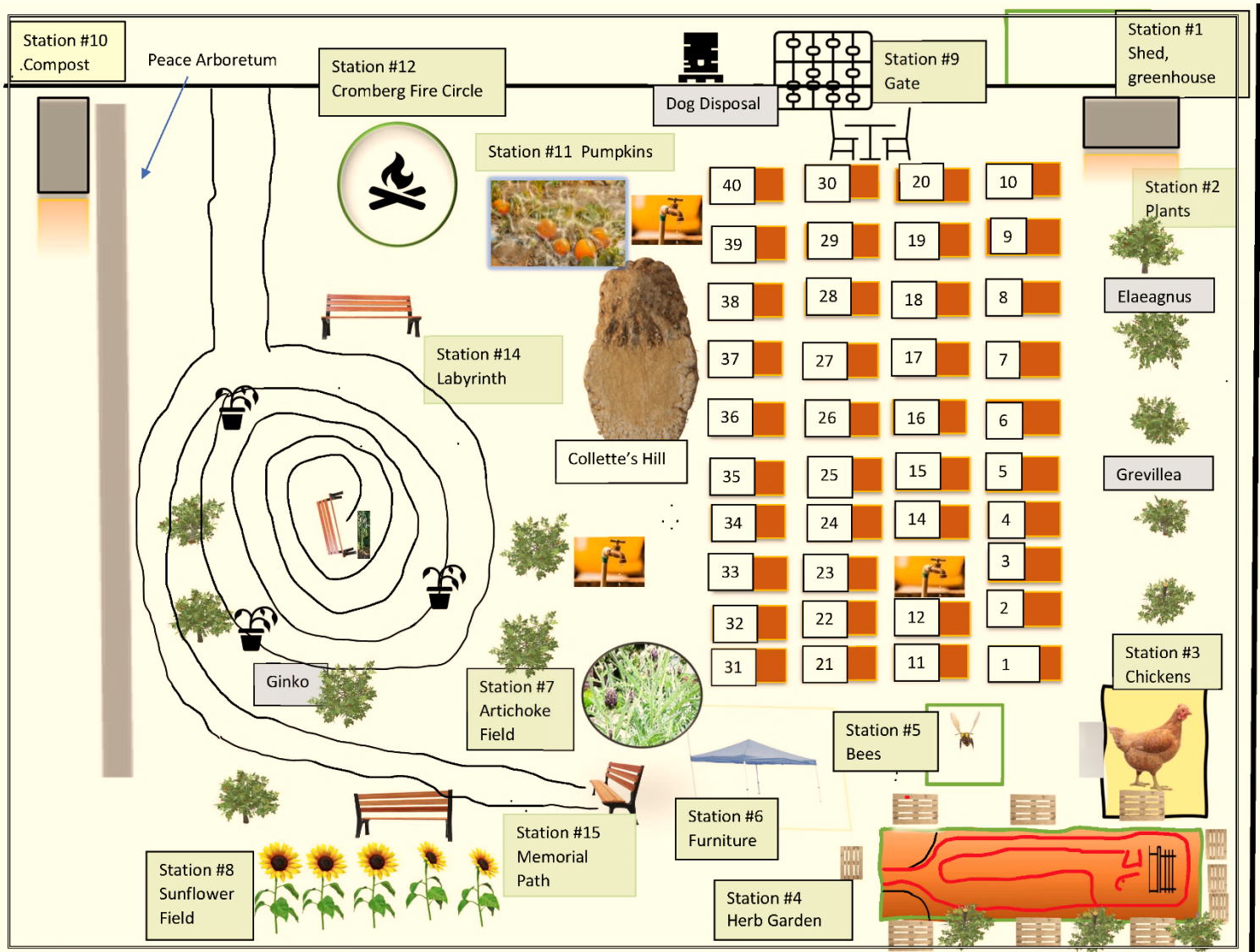
EXTRA VEGGIES? If you have extra veggies, consider donating to a food pantry!
Marcia works at Milpitas Food Pantry and can pick up extra produce on Monday and Wednesday evenings. If you are interested, she can be reached at the following number 408.892.8924.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The garden has many volunteer opportunities. **Following is a map and legend of the stations** within the garden.
The volunteer would adopt the station and maintain the area.

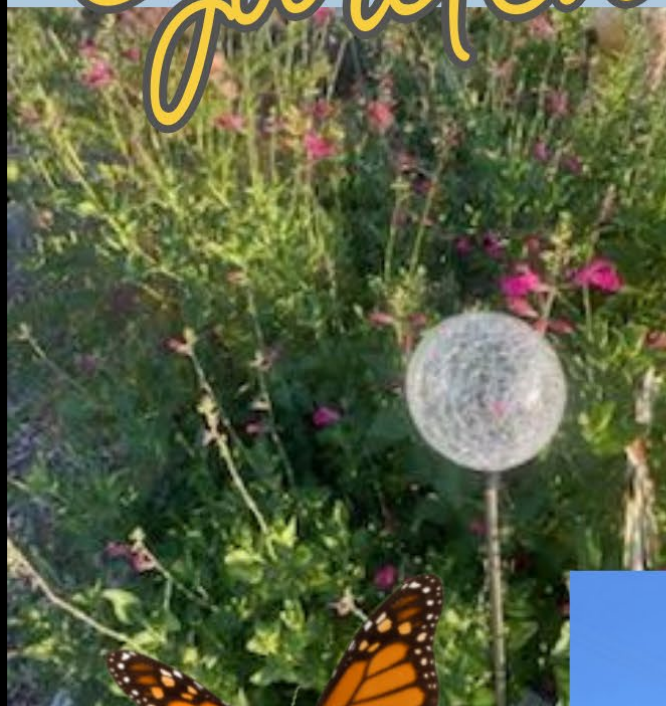
Grateful Gardens Map & Legend



- Station 1:** Shed and surrounding area – **Time:** 1-2 hours per week
- Station 2:** Elaeagnus, Grevillea bushes – **Time:** 1-2 hours per week
- Station 3:** Chickens – **Time:** 5-6 hours per week
- Station 4:** Herb Garden – **Time:** 2-3 hours per week
- Station 5:** Bees – Bees need specialized care by knowledgeable staff
- Station 6:** Furniture, Pop up – **Time:** varies based on project
- Station 7:** Artichoke Field – **Time:** 2-3 hours per week
- Station 8:** Sunflower field – **Time:** 2-3 hours per week
- Station 9:** Gate – **Time:** 2-3 hours per week
- Station 10:** Compost – **Time:** 4-6 hours per week
- Station 11:** Pumpkin field – **Time:** 2-3 hours per week
- Station 12:** Cromberg Fire Circle – **Time:** 2-3 hours per week
- Station 14:** Labyrinth – **Time:** 3-5 hours per week
- Station 15:** Memorial Path – **Time:** 1-2 hours per week



Garden in June





Peace For Me

Come see the changes
to Peace for Me!

Peace for Us is almost complete!

Peace For Us



Peace for Everyone is
being worked on



Peace for the Planet
is coming soon