

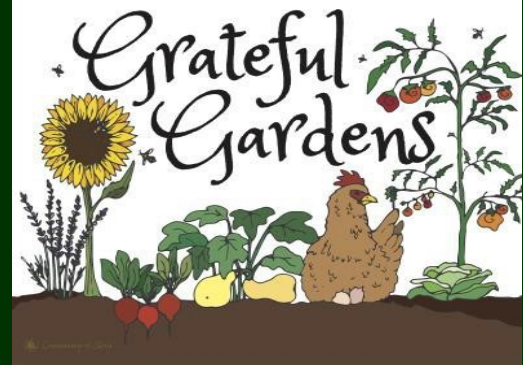


Community Garden

at Community of Christ
990 Meridian Ave., San Jose

Founded 2017

July, 2021—Newsletter #17



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

Updates from our Garden Manager, Collette Lynner

At the Watering Station:

Jim Marshall replaced a broken faucet, and I installed a new 100-ft hose and nozzle.

Beehives:

Ron McDowell, our bee keeper, said the bees needed a water source and shade. I moved the red shade canopy over the bees and got a second watering can. There is one watering can for the chickens and one for the bees.

Picnic Table:

We now have a blue canopy over the picnic table.

Tea Garden:

Boxholder Nicole offered transplants to the tea garden. Volunteers wanting to help with the transplanting are;

Karen,
Collette,
Sreenivasaru,
Doug,
Nicole,
Anne,
Nasrat and
Adel

Thank you for your generous help!

Hillside Plantings:

Along the eastern fence, between the Tea Garden & Labyrinth, I planted a row of water melon starts.

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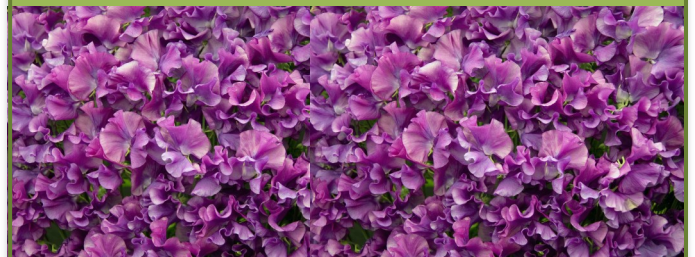
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• **NEW!** Water Conservation flyer at the garden

• Photos

GARDEN HOURS

Grateful Gardens can be enjoyed any time during the daylight hours, and you will see a few signs expressing our ground rules. Please refrain from visiting the garden after dusk. To preserve the beauty of the garden and surrounding area, remember that if you happen to leave any materials they will be discarded.



**MANY OF THE GARDEN TIPS AND REMINDERS
ARE COURTESY OF THE UC MASTER
GARDENERS, SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CA**

<http://mgsantaclara.ucanr.edu/>

REMINDERS

- ⊗ Please remember to turn off the hose bibb when you are done watering to prevent the hoses from bursting under pressure.
- ⊗ The chickens are getting organic feed so they lay organic eggs. If you feed them greens or other acceptable foods, please be organic. They love shelled sunflower seeds, bananas, and apples. They enjoy a bit of greens now and then - kale, broccoli, and any vegetables that have gone to seed and flower. I've read that we shouldn't feed them avocado pits or peels, onions, candy, green potatoes or tomatoes, citrus fruits, moldy or spoiled foods, uncooked rice, or dried or raw lentils or beans.
- ⊗ When adding to the compost bins please don't add weeds or plants with bugs - anything you don't want showing up in your garden next year. I pulled dandelions and last year's kale that had lots of white flies - I put them all in the dumpster.
- ⊗ Bee Swarms - From the Master Gardener website: Bees are very active in warm weather. There is simply so much pollen and nectar to collect! Sometimes, a bee colony may swarm. If you see a swarm, don't panic. As in any other time when working around bees, remain calm, move gently, and give them their space. Bees generally swarm when they are looking for a new home. Swarming bees are loaded with food and are not interested in stinging people.



If you have garden questions or newsletter ideas, please send an email to gratefulgardenssj@gmail.com



GARDEN TIPS

Watering Tomatoes

If you haven't already, it's time to cut back on watering tomatoes. Tomatoes have far more flavor when the ripening fruit is deprived of water. Don't forget to remove competing weeds from around the garden.

Water the Roots, Not the Plants

It's tempting to get the hose out and spray your dry, thirsty plants, but you don't want to waste water especially in a drought. Keep the roots nice and cool, but resist the urge to squirt the leaves unless they need a cleaning (for dust or white fly for instance).

It's not likely that daytime water on the leaves will burn them, it is more likely that the water will simply evaporate and not do your plants much good.

Garden Sanitation

Remove spent blossoms, fruit, and other plant parts as your plants finish producing. Dead and decaying plant parts can attract pests and give them safe places to breed. If pests are given a nice place to spend the winter, their populations are likely to be much higher next year.

Mulch, Mulch, Mulch

Mulch is the key to a low-maintenance and healthy garden. By adding several inches of mulch over your beds, you'll increase soil moisture, reduce weed competition, and improve the quality of vegetables. Use straw, newspaper, or leaves that will decay in one season.

WHAT TO PLANT IN JULY?

Summer planting season is winding down, now it's time to start harvesting. A couple more months and winter crops can be planted. See the photo of the two covered boxes filled with winter greens –

	Transplant	Seed
Brussels Sprouts	✓	
Beans		✓
Summer Squash	✓	✓

HELP CONSERVE WATER

The following flyer has been posted at the garden. Please familiarize yourself with the information and when you visit the garden ask fellow gardeners if they have seen it.



ATTENTION GARDENERS!

San Jose is asking its residents to limit their water usage.

Limit Watering to Two Days per Week: Watering or irrigating of lawns, landscape or other vegetated areas with potable water is limited to two days per week. Irrigation will be allowed Mondays and Thursdays for odd numbered and numberless addresses, and will be allowed on Tuesdays and Fridays for even numbered addresses.

• WATER ON TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

Six Ways to Save Water in Your Vegetable Garden

1. Get rid of your sprinkler. ...
2. Mulch. ...
3. Add lots of compost to your soil. ...
4. **Water** only when your plants need it. ...
5. Use a watering can. ...
6. Plant **vegetables** that use a lot of **water** close to each other.

SOMETHING TO CONSIDER

Collect “grey water” from your house, i.e., showers in containers and bring it to the garden to use on your plants.

THANK YOU FOR COMPLYING.

Come see our HERB GARDEN!



We are thriving!

