

Community of Christ
Community Garden
Founded 2017

August, 2021—Newsletter #18



THANK YOU!

- ☼ To the young men from Bellarmine High School for arranging rocks to border our overflow parking area.



- ☼ To Jim for staining and installing the Path of Memories pallets.



- ☼ To Marcia and Robert for painting the Labyrinth benches.



- ☼ To Sreenivasarao for his work in the Herb Garden.
- ☼ For Colette and others who care for our chickens, bees and garden.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE 1

- ☼ Message from our Executive Director
- ☼ Path of Memories

PAGE 2

- ☼ August is a Prepping month
- ☼ Reminders
- ☼ Garden Tips
- ☼ Garden hours
- ☼ Consider these plants in August

Page 3

- ☼ Water Conservation
- ☼ Reminders

PATH OF MEMORIES

The wall bordering the “Path of Memories” is ready for Plaques

Plaques are made from Redwood and measure 16” X 5”. A donation of \$100 is requested and **is tax deductible**

Any questions , please e-mail Jim Marshall at sjslimjim@aol.com



**MANY OF THE GARDEN TIPS AND REMINDERS
ARE COURTESY OF THE UC MASTER GARDENERS,
SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CA**
<http://mgsantaclara.ucanr.edu/>

AUGUST IS A “PREPPING” MONTH

August is the time to pull out failing or under-performing summer vegetables to make room for new additions. These veggies can take a lot of nutrients from your soil which are needed by fall crops. Amend any soil with a fresh batch of rich compost.

Check the well-being of your mulch to see if it has decomposed or scattered away. You don't want bare soil this time of the season because it invites more competing weeds. Consider adding a healthy layer of fresh mulch to needed areas in your garden. Compost is also a smart choice to add as a top layer; it adds nutrients and *helps control moisture evaporation*. Keep ahead of garden pests and diseases. Check for “sooty mold” and powdery mildew on leaves.

GARDEN HOURS

Grateful Gardens is best enjoyed 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.



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



GARDEN TIPS

Save seeds

If you have specific plants that did well this year, save their seeds.

Easiest way to do this is to keep them on the soil instead of pulling the plants up when they've finished yielding, allowing them to go to seed.

However, if it's a plant that produces fruit (such as peppers or tomatoes), then remove the seeds from the fruit produced and dry them for later use.

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. Keep their feet 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 a common belief that daytime water on the leaves will burn them. While it's possible, according to scientists—for hairy leafed plants where water droplets are held above the leaf surface—but not very likely. It's more the water will simply evaporate and not do your plants much good and could encourage fungal pathogens if wet overnight.

CONSIDER THESE PLANTS FOR AUGUST!

Plants in the Cole or brassica family are perfect crops you can plant in August. **Broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, kohlrabi and Brussels sprouts** do well in the fall.

One important thing to keep in mind is that you plant all of these plants from seedlings NOT SEEDS.

Other plants to consider in our zone are **celery and peas, chard kale and collards**.

Remember to avoid re-planting the same type of plant in the same area two seasons in a row. Doing this helps prevent the build-up of soil-borne diseases and pests as well as the depletion of soil nutrients.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO PLANT IN AUGUST?

	Transplant	Seed		Transplant	Seed
Broccoli	✓		Peas		✓
Brussels Sprouts	✓		Beets		✓
Cabbage	✓		Cilantro		✓
Fava Beans		✓	Leeks	✓	
Napa Cabbage	✓	✓	Arugula		✓

HELP CONSERVE WATER

REMINDERS

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 (That's us).**

- **WATER ON TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS**

Consider the following "water savers"

1. Mulch, to prevent evaporation
2. Add lots of compost to your soil
3. **Water** only when your plants need it
4. Use a watering can; water the base of the plant
5. 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.

- ☼ 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.