

Paul and Ruth Lemp Memorial Community Garden

Gardener's News

May 17, 2023



WHAT A MONTH THIS HAS BEEN!



Several folks are tilling their beds, adding the fertilizer we provide, planting seeds in their rows and root vegetable such as radishes. The freeze level in the beds is rapidly dropping so by the time you receive this newsletter, you may be able to plant anything that you have hardened off!

The wood plaque numbers have all been added to the old beds ... note that the last row, #'s 27-32 were renumbered. The new short beds have been assembled and will be numbered as soon as we place them where they belong. The new TALL beds have arrived, and we're 95% sure we will be able to assemble them this coming Saturday. The following weekend we will set all of the new beds in place, one row at a time, and fill them, **ADDING THE NUMBERS AFTER THE DIRT WORK IS FINISHED.** PLEASE make sure that you know which bed is yours before you begin working in it. Call Dan or Gary if you have any doubt.

SUMMER PREPARATION WORK PARTIES



Saturday, May 13, assembling new Short Vego Garden Beds

The ONLY preparation left is to assemble the new TALL beds (10), place them in their locations, and fill them up! Here is our proposed schedule. If there is any change, we will contact all of you as soon as possible.

Saturday	MAY 20	10 am	Assemble Tall beds
Saturday	MAY 27	10 am	Beds 27/28 in place and prepped
Sunday	MAY 28	NOON	Move beds into place, prep, fill

PLANTING YOUR ROWS

Remember we mentioned in an earlier newsletter, April 17, 2023 *“If you plant seeds, make sure you identify the plants and mark the rows. Them little buggers look just like weeds when they begin to sprout! My Dad taught my brothers and I to use Popsicle sticks and Kite string strung between the sticks to mark the rows. We removed the sticks and string as soon as the plants were big enough to tell the difference”* ... here's a reminder from another source:

“A weed is a plant that has mastered every survival skill except for learning how to grow in rows.” – Doug Larson

APHIDS

Them thar little creepy, crawly, eat-up-the greenery bugs will soon be back, **again!** They like the garden too! Here is a home recipe, from Michaele, that you can prepare in your kitchen and put in an old spray bottle. There are many similar recipes on the net, or BELLS should still have GARDEN SAFE FUNGICIDE FOR ORGANIC GARDENING available. We use it on our Currant and Saskatoon berry bushes, and our Apple tree.:

“Mix a spray made from Water and DAWN Dish Soap for Aphids, 1-2 tsp soap to 1 qt of water. Add a small amount of Vegetable oil if you choose. This type of spray will not hurt the gardens one bit, but is great for killing Aphids. Safe to consume with your vegetables too. Best to use in mild temperatures and not in the heat of the day. Water as usual and don’t forget to spray under the leaves where these pests enjoy hanging out.”

QUESTIONS FROM THE GARDENERS

What grows best in our Raised beds?

Note: Tall beds are 77” x 40”; short beds are 95” x 45”

Info provided by Michelle, Jeanette, Brigitte

Most root veggies (beets, carrots, Parsnips, turnips, radishes, potatoes)

Greens (Swiss chard, collards, kale, lettuce)

Herbs (dill, parsley, thyme, chives, onions.. both from sets and seed), Leeks
(Chives have pretty purple flowers and you get the chives too)

Cole crops (broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, zucchini, cucumber)

Thinning is important with Beets, Radishes, Onions Carrots, and parsnips. As for spacing, the seed packets have the info one needs and although one can cheat a little, if the carrots say 2-4” apart, 2-3” is a good goal. Zucchini are huge so at least 24” apart otherwise they will shade. You can plant fast things like radishes near them as they will be done before the zucchini gets big if you planted seeds.

Edible flowers.: Nasturtiums are fast growing, colorful, yummy with a little spice, and very easy to grow. **They need to be kept trimmed back from the ground because the lawn mower will mess them up when we mow.**

INFO FROM THE INTERNET

Plant Spacing:

Broccoli: space your plants 15 to 18 inches apart; for gardening in rows, set the transplants 18 to 24 inches apart within the row and space the rows 24 to 36 inches apart. Be sure to set transplants slightly deeper in the ground than they were in the pot.

Zucchini; Sow zucchini seeds 3 to 4 inches apart, then thin them as they grow. Provide plants with consistent moisture..

Bush zucchini can be planted 18" apart in rows. Larger zucchini should be 24-36" apart. Space your plants up to 48" apart if you have more space than rain.

Whether you choose to buy seedlings or plant zucchini seeds directly in your garden, you should group two to three plants close together for best pollination.

Cucumber: Cucumbers make excellent companions for zucchini as they attract squash bees just like pumpkins. These bees are helpful to zucchini plants because they pollinate both the zucchini and cucumber plants, which produce more veggies for your harvest.

EMERGENCY CONTACT SIGN

We will be posting a sign, similar to this , inside the garden, on one of the fences. This is for you to use in case of an emergency. Where would you like us to hang it?

EMERGENCY?

Call 911

This location is

1612 Oceanview Drive

Community Garden next to the Church

Coming events Coming Events Coming Events Coming Events

Saturday May 20 assemble Tall Vego Garden Beds

**Saturday May 27 - 10 am - Beds 27/28 in place and prepped
Ground cloth sheets and cardboard prepped for remaining beds**

Sunday May 28 fill beds

Wednesday June 14 Garden Potluck Party