



May 2023 Newsletter

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Garden Opening Update

A Remind app text message will be sent on 5/26 with an update on the Garden opening date.

Tentative date is 5/27.

"Keep out." Please don't come to the garden as we do our best to get the garden ready for opening day.

A telltale sign that the Garden is open for the season is that the flag is raised. At the same time, a Remind message will go out and it will be announced on our webpage.

Not using the Remind app? See [instructions](#) for signing up for our text messaging app to receive announcements and reminders on your phone (or in email).

Volunteer Crew Sign Up Form

All gardeners and their co-gardeners should have received an email with a link to SignUp to fill out an online form for volunteer crews.

If you have not filled it out yet, please note that the completed form is due on 5/26.

Make sure to create a Signup.com account in order to get notifications of opportunities and to track your hours.

Link to Form:

<https://form.jotform.com/23126...>



Summer Sprout Plants

Summer Sprout Plants will be arriving around June 9th.

When they arrive please note on the white board how many you may take.

Plants are free to BFCG Gardeners ONLY



Sweet Potato Slips

Sweet Potato slips will be available for sale at \$9 a bundle- approximately 25 slips per bundle.

To purchase slips: Place \$9 cash into an envelope with your name marked on the front and how many slip bundles you are purchasing. Deposit in the white mailbox on the shed door.

Sorry, no change will be given.

New to growing sweet potatoes? Check out the link below on how to plant your sweet potatoes.

<https://youtu.be/FBVR7GQ3F0Q>



Garden Store is Open

Our garden gear store is open through Monday, May 29th at

<https://gardenswag.itemorder.com>

Fun fact -

The sustainable tote is made from recycled jeans! It is estimated that one pair of jeans makes 2 totes.

Make sure to check out our new items and colors this year!

Straw Orders

Interested in using straw as a mulch and weed barrier? Use the link below to place your order. \$8 a bale.

Straw will be delivered to the garden tentative 5/28 weather permitting.

Any questions, contact Elicia - [440-666-6101](tel:440-666-6101) or essk8s@aol.com

Straw order form: <https://forms.gle/XjwjJ2kQECJ5...>



Raised Bed Gardens

Raised bed gardeners~ The garden is open on the 1st and 3rd weekend of the month - 10am-4pm- weather permitting and Thursdays when the Master Gardeners are in session with the children.

Make sure to have your pathways and beds clear of weeds. We have been unsuccessful in obtaining wood chips. Therefore, it is your responsibility to supply wood chips in the pathways around your bed.

Connect with your neighbor to organize who will get the chips.



Composting Guide

Yes!	No!
<p>Greens and Browns</p> <p>Greens are quick to rot and provide important nitrogen and moisture. Browns are typically slower to rot, but provide fiber and carbon and also allow important air-pockets to form in the mixture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fruit peels • Vegetable peels • Rotted fruits and veggies • Coffee grounds and filters • Egg shells • Tea bags (non silk) • Nuts and nut shells (absolutely no walnuts) • Small white and brown paper scraps (in small amounts only) • Paper bags (brown or white only) • Newspaper • Fall leaves • Seaweed • Human hair 	<p>Do not include:</p> <p>Putting these items in bin can encourage unwanted pests and can also create odor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weeds • Yard waste (due to chemicals) • Dairy • Bread • Oils • Plastics • Animal products • Metals
<p>Where do I place my compostable items?</p>	
<p>During the garden season: Compostable items can be placed in one of the large compost bins located behind the garden shed.</p> <p>During the winter months: Compostable items can be placed in one of the portable bins located outside of the garden gate.</p> <p><small>Ben Franklin Community Garden, a program of the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation, is located at 1905 Spring Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44109. Visit us online at BenFranklinCommunityGarden.org</small></p>	

Repeat Glass Recycling Bins

The three bins outside the garden gates are for glass recycling. Labels do not have to be removed nor do they have to be scrubbed clean.

Rinse the jar and they may be placed inside the bin.

All glass that is placed in the bins are recycled by Repeat Glass. To learn more about Repeat Glass see the link below-

<https://www.repeatglass.com/>

Compost Bin Outside the Gate

As a reminder gardeners are to either dig a hole in their plot for weeds or bag them up and take them home. As a reminder Rule 20 has been changed and no gardener should be placing garden waste in the compost bins.

The garden is still accepting home compost in the large can outside the garden gate. See the info graph on what is compostable.

You may also throw produce from your garden that is NOT diseased or donatable in the compost bin outside the gate- no weeds may be placed in the bin.

Community garden = community of gardeners

Our garden is shared space and courtesy is crucial. This reminder may seem hackneyed and preachy but as the season begins it bears repeating so we all have a positive, productive and enjoyable gardening experience.

Respect the resources. Besides the land, all tools, water, and other resources are shared. Being courteous ensures that these resources are used responsibly and fairly. It means being mindful of others' needs, following guidelines and directions, and not monopolizing or misusing available resources.

Good Neighbor Policy. For the benefit of your bordering gardeners and all gardeners good order is in order. Being courteous involves: following agreed-upon rules for your space and our common spaces; upkeep of your space, to wit weeds; staying within your space; cleaning up after oneself. It ensures that the garden is a pleasant and fruitful place for everyone.

“(What’s so funny ‘bout) peace, love and understanding.” Consideration for others. Gardeners have different preferences and needs and hurdles. Practicing courtesy involves respecting and being considerate of these differences and

challenges. Good-faith behavior and avoiding actions that may negatively impact others' gardening efforts. Being respectful in your communication with others. It allows for better understanding of each other's perspectives and promotes problem-solving and conflict resolution. Rely on your Coordinator and Committee members to step in instead of escalating any disagreement. Makes for a less stressful season.

Grow relationships. Be willing to help fellow gardeners when needed. Offer guidance, share knowledge. The courtesy you practice encourages mutual encouragement, appreciation, and celebration of each other's achievements. You feel valued and respected, all feel valued and respected. Win-win.



Music in the Garden

Summer 2023 Lineup

The 2023 music series features Cleveland-based professional artists, including several Ben Franklin gardeners.

June 3rd – Small Craft Advisory, featuring, “precision picking and gale-force vocals sound the eight-score years and more!” This band will truly delight bluegrass listeners!

June 17th – Sororii, a female-led band featuring Afro-Colombian cellist Carolina Borja, and bassoonist Arleigh Savage. Their original music explores feminine voices across cultures blending instrumental grooves with underlying world, latin, and afro beats.

July 1st – Oleg Kruglyakov, a Russian balalaika virtuoso who has played with several Folk Russian groups, touring extensively throughout Europe. Through studying the balalaika, Oleg learned to combine classical, ethnic, folk and world music.

July 15th – Morgan Mecaskey, a true embodiment of classic folk, combining superior guitar skills with deep, earnest lyrics. Morgan has the kind of voice that pulls you in and grabs hold, leaving you wanting more.

Aug 5th – John Orsini Big Band, featuring the exciting and sweet sounds of John and his saxophone along with 8 other talented musicians.

Aug 19th – Kalamos Trio, a classical windwood trio whose harmonious melodies transfer us to the worlds of Bach to Babbitt. Soothing sounds and virtuosic flourishes will wow listeners when performed by these world-class musicians.

Sept 2nd – Tim McDonald Quartet, led by saxophonist Tim McDonald, the quartet explores jazz with a mix of standards and original tunes influenced by Global folk and Black American music.

Sept 16th – Red Champion, a piano accompanied vocal quartet you will be tapping your toes to. A mixture of show tunes and opera sung by celebrated Cleveland artists: Lara Troyer, lyric coloratura soprano; Denise Milner Howell, mezzo-soprano; tenor Timothy Culver; baritone Brian Johnson, and pianist, Judith Ryder.

***Performances are at 6 p.m. on the first
and third Saturdays June – September.
Bring a lawn chair & join us!***

**wheel-chair accessible! Contact Mark Tapajna if more details needed on accessibility (216-276-1183)

In the event of rain, shows will be performed on Sunday at 2 p.m.

2023 EVENT DATES BFCG

Mai Tag Fundraiser: Saturday May 13th 1p–5p Rain or shine: General Admission Tickets are \$50, Designated Drivers \$10.

Garden opening Saturday May 20th Weather permitting

Pedal for Prizes: May 20th 10a–2p more info @ pedalforprizes.org

Saturday Coffee: June 3rd 9a Presentation on Growing Tomatoes and Pest Identification and Management.

Garden Walk: July 8th and 9th (Old Brooklyn is usually on the Saturday) more info @ gardenwalkcleveland.org

Ice Cream Social Saturday July 15th 11am–1pm Rain or Shine

Cuyahoga County Fair- August 8th –13th

Annual Meeting and Harvest party Saturday 9/9/2021 @ 12 PM –3 pm Rain or Shine

Garden Closing Saturday 10/14/2021 @ 4 PM

Garden Operating Committee Monthly Meetings

Unless otherwise indicated, committee meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. **All gardeners and members of the public are welcome to attend!**

PLEASE NOTE:

The June meeting will be held at Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation 4274 Pearl Road, rear entrance.



Ben Franklin Community Garden

1905 Spring Road

Mailing Address: 4274 Pearl Road

Cleveland Ohio 44109

A program of

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corp.

communications@benfranklincommunitygarden.org

You received this email because you signed up or are a current or past gardener.

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