



**WELCOME TO THE 2022
SEASON!!!!**



- All cameras have been turned off and all mics have been muted. Please do not turn them on as they cause distraction.
- If you have questions please use the chat box to submit.
- All information from this meeting will be in the May newsletter
- This meeting will be recorded and available to stream

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING.



● www.tomatomonsterheirlooms.com

Fundraising Efforts

Honey - Jam - Cook Books



- First Sale Date is 5/21 10a-3p
- Product will be available at most garden events
- Buy early supplies are limited

New Garden Gear

<https://gardenswag.itemorder.com/>

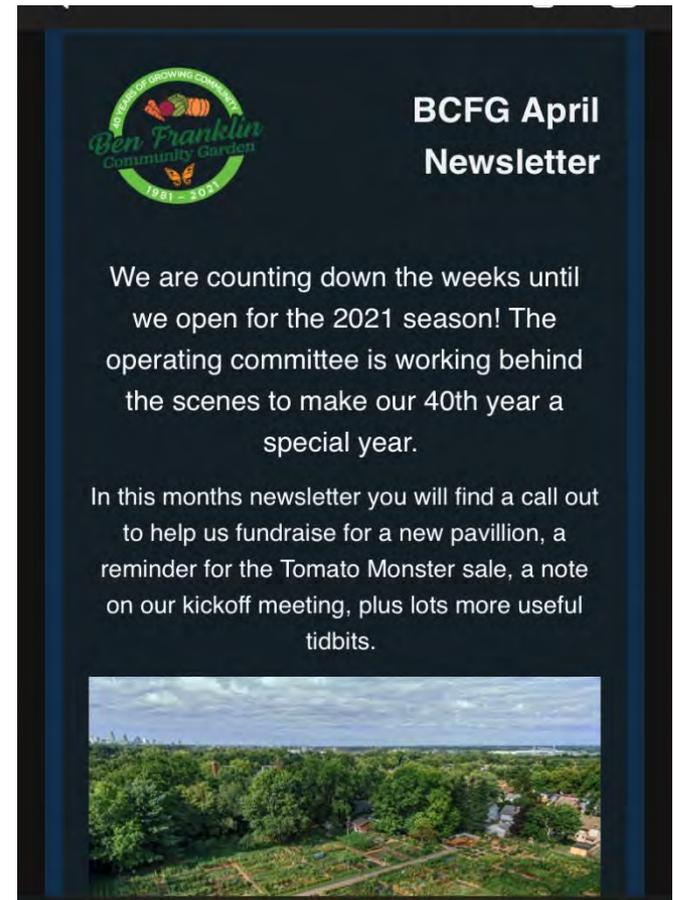


Garden Communications



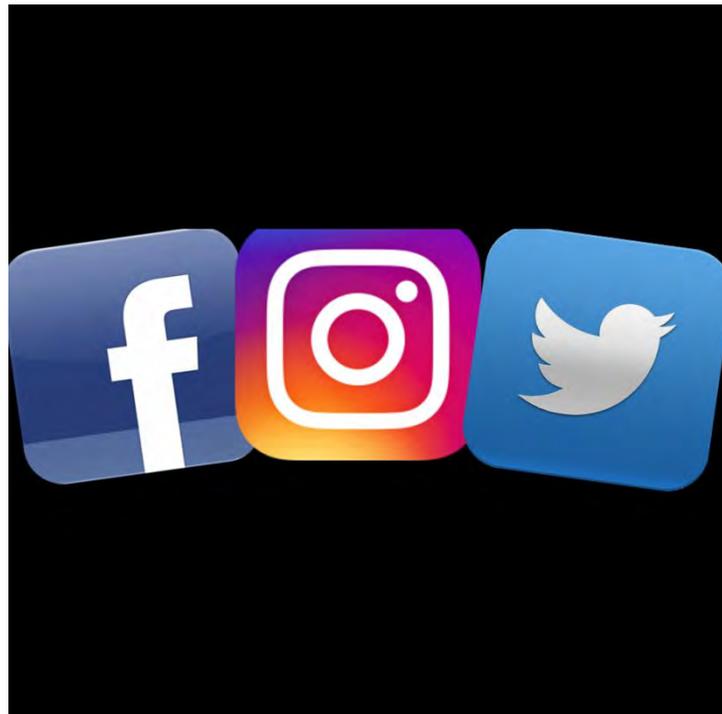
If you don't have text messaging capabilities, or just prefer email, Send a blank email to bfcgarden2@mail.remind.com. (You don't need a subject.) You'll get a response with more instructions.

Monthly Newsletter



Garden Communications

- Always check the bulletin boards near the shed building
- Benfranklincommunitygarden.org



Events

- Events can be found on the bulletin board, sign board, on social media, and on our google calendar located here:

https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=ssi213erm465vpo7vvms882058%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America%2FNew_York

Events

- Music
 - First/Third Saturday's and Fourth Wednesday's
 - Bands spanning a wide swath of genres with both new and returning artists.



Events

- Arts

- Family arts events will be held every fourth Saturday



Events

- Regularly Scheduled Events

- 5/14
 - First Timers Meeting
- 5/21
 - Garden Opening
- 7/9-7/10
 - Garden Walk
- 7/16
 - Ice Cream Social
- 8/9-8/14
 - Cuyahoga Co. Fair
- 9/10
 - Harvest Picnic
- 10/15
 - Garden Closing



GARDEN COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Ben Franklin Community Garden Operating Committee meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month @ 6:30 pm
- Meetings are open to everyone
- Location of the meeting or links to the virtual platform will be on our website and in your monthly newsletter
- Visitors are allowed comments at the end of the meeting
- If you have a topic that needs to be put on the agenda please contact the chairperson Jordan @ communications@benfranklingarden.org

2022 BFCG RULES

- Garden hours:
Mon-Sat: 9A - 8P
Sunday: 9AM - 4PM
Holiday: 11AM-4PM
- Parking
- Gardener Conduct
- No sunflowers, no corn, nothing invasive
- No Preen
- No Sevin
- Garden weed blocker must be water permeable



VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT

- In keeping with the intention and meaning of a community garden, and in an effort to defray costs and maximize grant awards, each Gardener and Co-Gardener is required to donate a minimum of five (5) hours toward the operation, maintenance, and promotion of the Garden. Hours are recorded in the Volunteer Service Log. In lieu of volunteer hours, a donation to OBCDC's Garden Fund of \$25/hr minimum is expected.



Weeding and Garden Maintenance

- Gardeners assigned plots adjacent to the center East-West blacktop walkway, are required to plant a row of ornamental flowers along the border with the walkway.
- Because the Garden is a certified Monarch Waystation, butterfly-attracting flowers, such as zinnias, are highly recommended. All Gardeners are encouraged to grow nectar plants to attract butterflies and other pollinators.
- Garden paths must be kept free and clear of all obstacles
- Plots must be weeded regularly. This includes adjacent paths
- Gardeners are responsible for ensuring their plots are maintained during vacation periods or other absences longer than one week
- It is strongly recommended that Gardeners compost organic material within their plot throughout the season
- Diseased and infected plants should be removed from the Garden and disposed of properly. It is the responsibility of the Gardener to remove all garden waste and trash from the Garden premises.

Garden Close Out

- At the conclusion of the season a checkout sheet must be signed by the Garden Coordinator or a member of the Garden Committee (as noted on the Garden roster) confirming the plot can be successfully plowed.
- Ground must be level. Raised beds and walkways must be raked smooth. All manmade materials, including weed-blocking material and staples/pins, must be removed. Any straw in bales must be removed or spread evenly across the plot.

Close Out Procedures

- Remaining vegetation (including vines and plant stalks) must be cut to lengths/heights of less than two (2) feet and distributed evenly across the plot. It is not necessary and not recommended that vegetation/organic material be removed.
- Gardeners are encouraged to leave flowers in place to provide for our pollinators.
- Gardeners who fail to complete the checkout process by the end of the final day may be denied gardening privileges in future seasons.

Straw Sales

Straw is available for \$8 a bale.

Order form is available on our Website and at <https://forms.gle/hERYb3fZS9c2TYGU8>

Full plot 3-4 bales Half plot 1.5-2 bales.

Check (made out to Elicia Polacek with STRAW in memo line) or cash dropped-off to Elicia Polacek 2069 Hillcrest Ave Cleveland, Oh 44109

Straw will be delivered to the garden. An email will be sent a week prior to delivery. You are responsible to get your bales to your plot. Questions: Contact Elicia: essk8s@aol.com or 440.666.6101

Hunger Center Donations

- BFCG Donates over 4,000lbs of produce to local hunger centers every season
- Gardeners are encouraged to donate their excess produce to the hunger centers
- Make sure all produce is cleaned before you place it in the cart.
- Do not donate items that are overly ripe or damaged
- Do not overload the cart and baskets



Free Plants & Seeds

Summer Sprout Plants are expected around June 1st.

Typically, we get:

- Tomatoes
- Peppers
- Eggplant
- Cabbage
- Collard Greens



A variety of free seeds are available at the garden. They will be on the tables outside of the shed. Please only take what you can use. First come first served basis.



Sweet Potato Slips

- Sweet Potato Slips are available for \$9 a bundle (25 slips)
- Please place your payment in an envelope marked sweet potato money with the gardener name on it
- Please use exact change
- Place your payment in the white mailbox on the shed door
- Sweet potato slips are available on a first come first served basis



Pop and Water Sales

Forgot your water bottle at home? We've got you covered. Pop and water sales have returned to the garden.

*Key is located at the end of the tool isle hanging with the hand tools. Please make sure you return the key



New this year – Repeat Glass



Tomato Webinar

- 5/25 at 7PM on zoom with Jennifer Terry



Resources

ON-Demand Community Garden
Mentoring Service Cuyahoga County
Master Gardeners

Call or Text 216-245-5305

Email

communitygardensccmg@gmail.com

Take pictures of your issues

Check out their Website and Social
Media for Saturday Garden
Gatherings

<https://www.cuyahogamg.org>



Questions

