

February/March Newsletter



This month's newsletter is filled with great information: starting sweet potato slips, OSU author series, gardening videos, and pre-opening volunteer opportunity.

Applications were sent out for RETURNING Gardeners on March 1st. If you have yet to receive your email or paper application email communications@benfranklincommunitygarden.org.

Make sure to get your application in by the March 26th deadline. We have a very large waitlist. Failure to submit your completed application by the deadline date could result in loss of your plot.

NEW Gardeners should expect to see an email with application on April 1st.



Starting Sweet Potato Slips

Ever wonder how to start sweet potatoes. Committee member Elicia Polacek shows us two methods to start your own sweet potatoes slips. Be sure to subscribe to our [YouTube](#) channel as this will be a three to four part series.



Garden Links

We are all eager for May to come fast. But until then, check out this article that committee member Jim Kasper wrote about [gardening video](#) sites.



OSU Authors Speaker Series

Check out the author series that OSU has created for Spring. [Registration](#) is required.



Spring Clean-Up: Volunteers Needed

Volunteer prior to opening. Help clean up the garden. Contact Elicia for details: essk8s@aol.com/440.666.6101.



Social Media Updates

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [You Tube](#), and [Remind](#) for gardening news and updates.



Composting Guide

Yes!

Greens and Browns

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.

- 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

No!

Do not include:

Putting these items in bin can encourage unwanted pests and can also create odor.

- Weeds
- Yard waste (due to chemicals)
- Dairy
- Bread
- Oils
- Plastics
- Animal products
- Metals

Where do I place my compostable items?

During the garden season: Compostable items can be placed in the one of the large compost bins located behind the garden shed.

During the winter months: Compostable items can be placed in one of the portable bins located outside of the garden gate.

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



Exciting News: We can now accept compost year round. If you'd like to donate your compost check out the Composting Guide for information.

Want to learn more about composting. Check Cleveland Recycles event page for information on composting webinars. [Registration required.](#)

Artichoke

Artichokes are in season this month. Do they look intimidating to you? [Simple Recipes](#) has a great article from picking out a good one to how to prepare them. Once you feel confident head to [Bon Appetit](#) for more recipes.



Benjamin Franklin Community Garden

1905 Spring Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44109 United States



216-446-5155

communications@benfranklincommunitygarden.org

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