



April 2024 Newsletter

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Join us for an afternoon of fun and community spirit with craft beer, food trucks, sweets, coffee, games, live music. The Schnitz Ale folks (who give us their brewer's spent grain for composting) have arranged for 9 local breweries to be on site, offering tasty craft beers for you to sample and enjoy.

This is a family-friendly event, so bring the kids. And be sure to tell your friends. Gardeners may purchase tickets at the Kick-off meeting May 6 or call Alex at [608-239-8847](tel:608-239-8847).

Kick-off Meeting

Join us for our Season Kick-Off Meeting – Monday, May 6, 7:00 p.m.
 Mary Queen of Peace Parish Center Cafeteria, 4427 Pearl Road. Enter from the rear parking lot.

50/50 and free seeds will be available.



Sign up!

Make sure to [create an account](#) on SignUp.com. We will use this platform



again this year to sign up for volunteer opportunities.

New this year: open opportunities will be on our website under "Volunteer Ops."

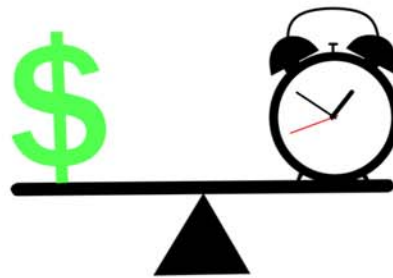
Make sure to check your email, the website, and Remind for

opportunities throughout the season.

All volunteer time will be logged in the volunteer book found at the garden. Time is logged under the main gardener name.

Your hours or your dollars

Why does BFCG use \$25 as the monetary equivalence of one hour of volunteer time? We use the calculation of Independent Sector (IndependentSector.org), long recognized as the prime source for state and national data on the value of volunteer time in the U.S.



[TLDR-] The assumption is that their equivalence represents the cost to the organization of hiring paid workers to provide these services. It is not based on the amount that volunteers may earn in their paid occupations, but on the cost (or value) of the services they provide.

Their number is first based on the annual average hourly earnings for production and non-supervisory workers on private non-farm payrolls (OK, so there may be a bit of irony that they exclude farm workers whose earnings are less). Estimates come from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) database from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Their methodology takes into account fringe benefits as well. *[-TLDR]*

Independent Sector announced in April 2023 that the latest (2022) value of a volunteer hour is estimated to be \$31.80 nationally, \$29.17 for Ohio. Hence, BFCG \$25/hr.

Putting a number to your volunteer time doesn't do you justice. We, everyone in our gardening community, appreciate your dedication to our garden. We value your time and talent and know it can't be quantified. Whether it's hours or dollars we hope that you find satisfaction in contributing to the stewardship, improvement, and preservation of our special place.



Reminder about Remind

We use Remind, a free text messaging app, to communicate announcements and reminders quickly and efficiently — straight to your phone (or your email). Never miss out!

More information and **easy sign up details** [on our website](#).

Calendar



The calendar is still in process. Stay tuned for more garden event dates and details. Use Remind, check the [website](#), check bulletin boards. Here's a preview:

- Season Kick-Off Meeting – Monday, May 6, 7:00 p.m.
Mary Queen of Peace Parish Center Cafeteria, 4427 Pearl Road. Enter from the rear parking lot
- Mai Tag – Saturday, May 11, 1–5:00 p.m.
- Garden opening – Saturday, May 18 (the "creek don't rise" date)
- Pedal for Prizes – Saturday, May 18 (our Garden is a "stop" on this [community event](#))
- Memorial Weekend – May 25–27 Memorial Day Weekend Brat Fest Fundraiser. Time TBA
- Ice Cream Social – Wednesday, July 10

Shortly we will post the calendar for our Music in the Garden Series lineup. Meanwhile, mark your calendars for the first and third Saturdays of June, July, August, September, 6–7:00 p.m.

March 16

It was a green and golden evening! A huge success!

We're grateful to all the businesses and individuals who donated prizes and bakery, to everyone who volunteered their time, and, of course, to everyone who attended our gala. Big thanks also to the Sachsenheim crew and to Green Kitchen for providing the vegan gluten free meals. Shout out to gardener Lisa Young for driving the benefit bus once again! Prize donors are listed below. Please patronize your local businesses.



When you do please remember to tell them that you appreciate their support.
They will notice!

[Akron Rubber Ducks](#)
[Alcohol by Volume](#)
[Angelos Pizza in Lakewood](#)
[Applebee's](#)
[Axe Throwing Cleveland](#)
[b.a. Sweetie](#)
[Baker Creek Heirloom](#)
[Bark Box](#)
Jody and Tim Basich
Barbara Boyd
[Broadview and Schaaf Marathon](#)
[Bunker Hill Golf Course](#)
Sam Cahill
[Cahoon Nursery & Garden Center](#)
Carole Chew
[Chuppas's Market Place](#)
[Cincinnati Reds](#)
[Cleveland Botanical Garden | Holden Arboretum](#)
[Cleveland Browns](#)
[Cleveland Cavaliers](#)
[Cleveland Clothing Company](#)
[Cleveland Guardians](#)
[Cleveland Monsters](#)
[Cleveland Orchestra](#)
[Cleveland Zoological Society](#)
[Creeside Restaurant & Bar](#)
[Cutting Line](#)
[Cuyahoga County Fair](#)
Kathy Delaney
[Famous Dave's BBQ](#)
[Gabe's Family Restaurant](#)
[Gale's Garden Center](#)
[Gervasi Vineyard](#)
[Gordon Food Service](#)
Darlene Glass and Marie Mathie
[Greater Cleveland Aquarium](#)
[Guys Pizza](#)
Kim Hageman (Mary Kay)
Ann Marie Hanna
[Harry's Steakhouse](#)
[Home Depot](#)– Steelyards
[Honey Hut Ice Cream](#)
Renata Jelito
Rose Jenkins (in memory of John Jenkins)
[Johnny's Selected Seeds](#)
Jim Kasper
Kathy Keough

Sue Koetter (Mary Kay)
[Kurtz Bros.](#)
[Lake Erie Crushers](#)
[Loganberry Books](#)
[Lowe's \(Strongsville\)](#)
[Mahoning Valley Scrappers Baseball](#)
[Rebecca Maurer, Cleveland City Council, Ward 12](#)
[Memphis Kiddie Park](#)
[Metropolitan Coffee](#)
[Midas – Memphis Ave.](#)
[Miller Ferry](#)
[Mitchell's Ice Cream](#)
[Music Box Supper Club](#)
[Nothing Bundt Cakes](#)
Monica Occhetti
[Ohio State Fair](#)
[Ohio Wine Producers Association](#)
[Old Brooklyn Community Development Corp.](#)
[Ollie's Bargain Outlet](#)
[Oriental Trading](#)
Christine and Gregory Orlowski
Roberta Orsini
[Outback Steakhouse](#)
[Petitti Garden Center](#)
Kelly Peto
Linda Piscioneri
[Pizza Joe's & Deli](#)
Profiles Creative Hair Center
[Rakauskas Architecture](#)
Kim Repinski
[Rock & Roll Hall of Fame](#)
Nancy Rozell
[Rust Belt Riders](#)
[Sachsenheim Hall](#)
[Sam's Club](#)
[Snow Trails](#)
[South Hills Antiques](#)
Spins Bowl
[Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens](#)
Kristina Stasek
Mary Ellen Stasek
Mark Tapajna
[Target](#)
Donna Kolecki Taylor and Renee Taylor
[Univ. of Dayton Flyers Football](#)
[Univ. of Toledo Rockets Football](#)
[Mark Yasenchack](#)
[Youngstown State Univ. Penguins Football](#)

Straw Orders

Using straw in your garden this year?
Straw is \$8 a bale and will be delivered to the garden TBA (dependent on opening day).



Questions about straw contact Elicia:
essk8s@aol.com

Order
form: <https://forms.gle/HDjV5gnB5RXK>.

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All straw must be pre-ordered and
payment made.

REMINDER

Everyone working in the garden must have a **waiver on file**. All main gardeners filled out a waiver when completing their application. If you are a co-gardener and have not filled out the form, you can find the link below.

<https://form.jotform.com/24042...>

Memorial Day Weekend Brat Fest Fundraiser

You are invited to join us for our first annual Memorial Day Weekend Brat Fest fundraiser. The event will be held Sat.–Mon., 5/25, 5/26, and 5/27.



We will have brats, hot dogs, chips, soda, and ice cream for purchase. Used tomato cages and large wooden garden stakes will be available for purchase as well.

Keep a look-out on our website and social media for times of the event.

This event is open to gardeners and non-gardeners!

Opening Weekend Reminders

Sweet potatoes will be on sale \$8 for a bundle of 25 slips—cash only. Place your monies in a sealed envelope with your name and number of bundles purchased and place in the mailbox on the shed door. **No change is given.**

Free plants—when Summer Sprout plants are delivered. Allocation will be listed on the white board. Take only what your plot is allocated.

Parking—**There is no parking inside the garden** (except for handicapped with proper hangtags in designated area). Three

spots are designated for loading and unloading only. Opening weekend is very busy. Be courteous, quickly unload your vehicle, and move your vehicle to the main parking lot or Tampa. **No more than three vehicles in the unloading loading area.**

Garden Operating Committee Monthly Meetings

Your Garden Operating Committee meets year round! Unless otherwise indicated, committee meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation
4274 Pearl Road, rear entrance.

All gardeners and members of the public are welcome to attend!



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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