

## Benjamin Franklin Garden Committee Accomplishments 2016

1. Most of our fruit trees were pruned during March and April.
2. The garden received a donation of 500lbs of Dave Thompsons Organic Healthy Grow.
3. Held a successful fundraiser at The Venue Bistro.
4. New trees planted – 1 peach, 2 apple, 2 cherry, 1 magnolia.
5. The garden hosted a number of educational classes, OSU Garden Learning Circle .
6. Two bee hives were installed as part of the grant from the Cleveland Climate Action Fund along with a pollinator garden.
7. Ice cream social was held 7/13/16.
8. Harvest picnic was held 9/17/16.
9. New Leaf Blower was purchased to collect leaves for the compost.
10. New compost bins were built in an effort to improve soil qualities.
11. Throughout the season we had requests for garden tours from various organizations, committee members honored all requests.
12. A number of volunteer groups wanted to help maintain the grounds and were accommodated also. Service hours were provided by Gateway Church, Key Bank, and Gilmour Academy. Gilmour Academy sponsored and maintained 13 hunger center plots.
13. We won a red ribbon for our community garden display at the Cuyahoga County Fair.
14. Two new picnic tables for the garden were purchased.
15. Committee donated a wheelbarrow and a \$100 gift card to Facing History High school to start a gardening program as part of the science class.
16. The mower attachment was traded for a brush hog attachment.
17. A cover crop of clover, winter wheat, hairy vetch and field radish were planted in the fall- the first cover crop since becoming a community garden.
18. The garden sign was re-landscaped adding a slate stone boarder and perennials.
19. Food donations to the hunger centers totaled 5,500 pounds for the season.
20. The chair and garden coordinator attended the American Community Garden Association Conference; the garden was featured as a tour stop and the chair and vice chair gave a presentation at the conference on policies and procedures in a successful community garden.
21. The garden was featured in a documentary film *Cleveland Growing Strong* , interview given by John Jenkins [www.clevelandgrowingstrong.com](http://www.clevelandgrowingstrong.com).