



# WEEKLY WEEDER

Content: July 28, 2022

1. A Peek at the Harvest
2. Payment Due August 1 for Unworked Volunteer Hours
3. Water Woes: Turning Off at Faucet
4. Sungolds Shine in Heat
5. Garden Education by Ila Falvey
6. Garden Tasks by Steve Camp

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## A Peek at the Harvest

Kerry Drake created a new veggie face with an onion hair spike from a recent harvest (July 16th). Send your harvest photos to the [Weekly Weeder!](#)

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## Payment Due for Unworked Volunteer Hours

If you did not work all the required hours in the Spring season, the payment for the unworked hours is due on Monday August 1. The invoice for unworked service hours includes information on how the amount due can be paid.

The service hours, including a TSBVI hour required for each plot, should have been worked between January 1, 2022 and June 30, 2022. Gardeners had another week (until July 7) to record the hours worked. The invoices for unworked hours were emailed on July 15, 2022. If you had unworked hours for

the Spring season and did not get an invoice, please contact Carol Limaye at scgtreasurer1@gmail.com. The invoices may have been caught in the spam filter.

We appreciate the contributions of all of Sunshine gardeners, and encourage each gardener to work their service hours rather than pay a fee for unworked hours. — Submitted by Carol Limaye

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## Water Woes: Turning Off at Faucet

Last week's Weeder had information about our sky-high water bill.

Recently some water hoses have been found turned off only at a nozzle/sprayer attached to the hose or at a Y-connector attached to the faucet. Water should always be turned off at the faucet. A hose turned off at a nozzle/sprayer can burst and Y-connectors are more likely to leak than the faucet. So when you turn off the water, please turn off the faucet. It doesn't hurt to also turn off at the Y-connector or nozzle/sprayer but these should be in addition to and not instead of turning off the faucet. — *Submitted by Jim Willmann*

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Sungolds Shine in Heat

I was away for the hottest part of July, so when I returned, I expected to see everything in my garden plot frazzled to a crisp. But, lo and behold, when I visited my plot upon my return after 18 days without watering, there were some edibles awaiting, not looking much the worse for wear. The most surprising growth was in a Sungold Tomato plant, which grew to a sprawling 8 foot height and had put on numerous ripe and green fruits. Okra also did fine. Banks of Cowpen Daisies that have not been watered the whole summer also have continued to bloom and provide some protection to other plants. I think what has helped is mulching well with leaves and generally following a no-till method. I am still learning as I go along, but it certainly was good to see that some plants can survive intense heat and drought if the soil can retain enough moisture to pull them through the tough times.— *Submitted by Susan Van Haitsma*

## Garden Education By Ila Falvey

There are two upcoming educational events:

1. Tonight, July 28th from 6 to 8 pm, renowned ecologist and conservationist Merlin Tuttle is giving a talk on **Bat Pollination**. [Register for the free event](#) taking place at the The Rackhouse at Desert Door Distillery, 211 Darden Hill Road, Driftwood, TX 78619. Included in registration:

- light snack options,
- one Desert Door cocktail, and
- a native Texas seed give away.

2. This Saturday, July 30th from 2 to 3:30 pm, the Central Texas Mycology Society is hosting an event: **Fungi, Art, and the War on Nature**. Speaker is Angel Schatz. Interested? [Register for this free event](#).

Synopsis: Mushrooms and art have long been intertwined. Fungi is the foundation of our evolution as a species, and for thousands of years, humans have depicted mushrooms in cave drawings, petroglyphs, mushroom stones, early European Renaissance oil paintings, and more. Some believe that ancient art provides evidence of the ritualistic use of psychedelic mushrooms, too. In part one of a two-part talk examining mushrooms, art, and the war on nature, Angel Schatz from the Central Texas Mycological Society will take you on a mushroom trip around the world, from present-day India to Siberia, Greece and Guatemala and more. She'll highlight key mushroom art from around the globe and discuss research from leading historical scholars and ethnomycologists. Open your mycelial mind and experience art, culture, and history through a new lens!

You can also check out Central Texas Mycology Society's future events and workshops [here](#).

## Garden Tasks By Steve Camp

I hope everyone is taking care of themselves during this record breaking weather. Stay hydrated and know the signs of heat exhaustion/stroke. Stay safe! The gate is open at 6 AM and that's when I'm going most days. 6 to 8 is prime time if you can handle it. Just 1 hour a week can make a huge difference and keep you in compliance.

I think that by now all have heard or read the new directives involving plant waste. I want to thank all of you that are participating for not putting anything but plant waste in our compost pile. While loading the container we found virtually no trash. We also made a separate pile for Sunflower and other branchy items that can not be picked up with a loader bucket and will have to be loaded into the container by hand.

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There will be no more IOUs accepted as payment in the lockbox. Checks or Cash in an envelope would be great.

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### **NEXT SCHEDULED WORKDAY IS TBD**

Workdays often evolve into social events! SCG is a fantastic place to meet new friends and learn both new and old gardening techniques. There's a wealth of knowledge here and experienced people that love to share it.

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### **NEW GARDENERS**

There are several new gardeners at SCG! Please don't hesitate to introduce yourself and y'all get to know each other a little and share garden knowledge and tips. Let's emphasize the COMMUNITY in Community Garden.

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Please read handbook and site rules. Any hardware (hoses, sprayers, nozzles, splitters etc.) attached to garden faucets and maintenance of said items are the responsibility of individual gardeners.

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### **ROADS AND PARKING**

- Speed limit is 3 MPH. (Primarily for safety, but also to keep the dust down.)

- Sunshine's roads provide access to plots and common areas. Gardeners should not 1) park on roads except to unload a heavy load from vehicle, 2) drive on roads when wet, 3) drive around barriers, 4) drive into another gardener's plot, or 5) put plants or other items in the road.
- Cars may not be left idling while at the garden.
- Park only in the front parking area or your common area. On weekends there are parking spaces on Sunshine and 49th Street.

Handbook and Site rules specifically state that **PARKING ON GARDEN ROADS IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED**. Park in the parking lot or common areas only. When the emergency vehicle enters SCG, they may(I hope not)be coming to assist YOU. How inconvenient it would be for them to have to wait for folks to move cars.

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## PRIORITY TASKS

- MOWING AND TRIMMING AROUND HOOP HOUSE AND GREENHOUSE!!
- Khaki weed season is upon us! For the uninitiated, Khaki weed is an invasive plant that infects the garden in late spring, summer, and fall. We are determined every year to eradicate it as much as possible. To this end, we are allowing digging up khaki weed to be counted as TSVBI hours until further notice.
- Maintaining common paths and common areas. If you have plants extending into common paths, trim them. The common paths are designed to allow the biggest wheelbarrows that we own to traverse them unimpeded

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## TSVBI

- Weeding paths in TSVBI garden and wood chip areas on west side. (This is normally needed. Try to get out roots. Be sure to smooth out paths after weeding to facilitate TSVBI students (who are blind) moving around garden). Mowing between fence and street along 49th St. and Sunshine Dr. along and 10' inside fence.
- Khaki weed removal.
- Cleaning the street curb gutters of dirt and debris buildup. (At places in the curb gutter along Sunshine Dr. And 49th St. soil has built up and grass is beginning to grow. Scrape off with shovel and put in wheelbarrow. If debris is gravel it can be put in low places in the parking lot, otherwise, destination is dumpster.

Note: TSVBI hours can also count as regular hours.



## REGULAR

- Mowing, edging (Please check area around trailer and greenhouses). The mowing season is picking up (if it ever rains, it will pick up exponentially.) It's way easier to keep it mowed than try to catch up when it gets overgrown.
- Maintaining common paths. (Gardeners are required to maintain a 2' strip of common paths adjacent to their plot.)
- Mowing and cleaning up overgrown/messy places in common areas.

Your Zone Coordinator may have more tasks than are listed here. Contact them if you feel that you have run out of things to do.

Slow Down (3 MPH!) You're on Garden Time! Enjoy!

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