



WEEKLY WEEDER

November 3, 2022

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Please Take Survey to T-Shirt Interest

Want a New Sunshine T-shirt? We are gauging interest in t-shirt sales for

the Spring Sale. If you would be interested in buying a Sunshine Community Gardens t-shirt with the logo designed by Tony Sanchez and Isabelle Encela (see above), please fill out this survey: <https://forms.gle/EYoEV4hBCVMBzxzN7> If we do decide to sell these shirts they will be screen printed on the front of a tri-blend white shirt priced at \$20. — *Submitted by Marsha Riti*

Join Sunshine's Adopt-A-Fence Program

Sunshine gardeners indicated a strong preference for vines on Sunshine's new fence – but vines require maintenance. To accomplish this, Sunshine is initiating an adopt-a-fence program. Under the program, gardeners will select the fence panel or panels they would be willing to maintain. Each panel is 9' wide. The intent is also to give participating gardeners an option to have input on the variety of vine grown on the fence panel(s) they maintain. What variety of vine may be grown will be subject to certain restrictions such as the vine being drought tolerant. The details of exactly how this will work will be worked out on an as-we-go-basis.

Eighty-one fence panels have been marked with a numbered metal tag from 1-81. The westmost panel on 49th St and the southmost panel on Sunshine Dr., as well as panels on either side of the front gate, are not numbered since they will be kept clear of vines.

To take part in the adopt-a-fence program, just identify the panel or panels you would like to maintain and email Jim Willmann (jhwillmann@gmail.com) the number on the tag on the panel(s) you would like to maintain. Also, indicate if you would like to have input on the specific variety of vine grown on the panel(s).

Please join your fellow Sunshine gardeners in making the adopt-a-fence program successful.— *Submitted by Jim Willmann*



Free Tennis Balls

A generous neighbor was giving away tennis balls. These are in the tool shed. It's a great time to ensure your rebar and posts have a topper for safety! — *Submitted by Iris Slevin*



Harvest Photo!

Note from Kristin: Many have been sending in lovely photos from the garden. All will be posted on social media or in the Weeder; apologies for not getting to all images this week!

This photo is from Susan Hoberman: This week, she harvested pak choi, mustard greens, arugula, radishes, beets and escarole (from Debra's garden).



Garden visitor by Maria Beach

Your November Sunshine Garden

Happy Fall, Y'all!

The weather forecast for the first half of November is mild this year, with highs in the 60s-80s and lows ranging from the upper 40s through the 60s. But the first frost usually arrives by late November or early December in Austin, so it is worth remembering this and getting prepared for the colder temperatures that will be coming soon.

The first week to ten days of November is the end of the range for planting many fall vegetables, like beets, carrots, collards, and fava beans. Strawberries may also be transplanted in early November. Other crops like Asian greens, lettuce, radishes, and spinach are hardy enough that they may be planted all month long. November is the last call for planting flower bulbs and wildflowers, as well as dividing perennials. Prune mums to the ground after blooming.

November is a perfect time to mulch mightily. Mulch perennials and cool

season brassicas to help them weather the colder temperatures that are coming. Any unplanted beds can also be mulched with leaves and compost to improve the soil for winter or spring planting. Cover crops may also be planted as living mulch.

Harvest basil before the temperatures fall below 40 degrees, or even 45 degrees if it is also windy. Harvest peppers, tomatoes, and other warm season crops before the first freeze. Peppers can be blanched and frozen. Green tomatoes can be harvested and allowed to ripen indoors. Last year I harvested many green tomatoes in late November and before the first frost in December. I wrapped each tomato in newspaper, layered them in cardboard boxes with more newspaper between the layers, and stashed them in my garage. Each week I took the ones that were turning pink into the house to continue ripening, and I still had fresh tomatoes into early January. The flavor was not as good as the taste of my summer tomatoes that were picked when partially red, but the winter tomatoes were still better than most of the ones I could buy in the supermarket.

Just before a freeze, water cool season plants and cover them with row cover or old sheets. Remember to weigh down the edges of the covers with rocks or bricks to protect the plants and prevent the row cover or sheets from blowing away.

Vegetables to Plant in November

Asian Greens (Seeds or Transplants; All Month)
Beets (Seeds; Early November)
Carrots (Seeds; Early November)
Chard (Seeds or Transplants; Early November)
Collards (Seeds or Transplants; Early November)
Fava Beans (Seeds; Early November)
Garlic (Cloves; All Month)
Greens, Cool Season (Seeds; All Month)
Kale (Seeds or Transplants; All Month)
Kohlrabi (Seeds or Transplants; Early November)
Lettuce (Seeds or Transplants; All Month)
Mustard (Seeds or Transplants; Early November)
Radish (Seeds; All Month)
Shallots (Cloves; All Month)
Spinach (Seeds or Transplants; All Month)
Turnips (Seeds, First Half of November)

Planting calendar adapted by Maria Beach from the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Vegetable Planting Guide for Travis County, compiled by Patty G. Leander, Master Gardener Vegetable Specialist, and used with permission.

See the [complete planting guide](#) — *Submitted by Maria Beach*

Garden Education by Ila Falvey

Science Under the Stars, Library Edition: [Talk on Soil Microbes](#)

Austin Public Library's Howson Branch has an ongoing series in partnership with UT's Department of Integrative Biology Researchers and our next program might appeal to some of our gardeners! [Xinyi Yan](#) is presenting her research on soil microbes on November 8th and it sounds super spiffy:

Do you like mushrooms or beans? Have you heard of companion planting or intercropping? The common theme uniting these two seemingly unrelated questions is soil microbes. Come and learn about the multiple ways soil microbes influence growth of individual plants, assembly of plant communities, and our daily life.

When: Tuesday November 8 from 7 to 8 pm

Where: 2500 Exposition Blvd, Austin, TX 78703

Check out Texas Master Gardener's [November Vegetable Garden](#) article

It is time to take herbaceous cuttings to propagate in your greenhouse! This post describes the steps: <https://travis-tx.tamu.edu/2022/10/26/last-chance-for-fall-plant-cuttings/>

Garden Tasks by Steve Camp

Greetings,

Someone lost a nice piece of jewelry at the garden. Text me at 361-215-0122 and describe it to me. It will be returned. I'm

ATTENTION!! - If you believe that you are the last person leaving the garden in evening, please CLOSE AND LOCK THE TRAILER! Any SCG garden member knows the combination and can let themselves in should the need arise.

NEXT SCHEDULED WORKDAY - Saturday 11/5/22 from 9-11 contact Kerry Howell on Saturday morning

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.

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.

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.

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.

ON NOVEMBER 14 & 15 there may be workers at the entrance to the garden preparing the grounds for asphalt. Please go slow and follow their directions or park in the street. Sometime

around the 16th, the entrance will be closed for 3-5 hours while asphalt operations are performed.

PRIORITY TASKS

- **Mowing and Trimming** Fenceline and lawn on either side of fence.
Note the North, East and South fenceline now have a number assigned to each panel. It is on a brass ring hanging on the panel. Please, either you or a small group please sign up for a panel that you will work to keep clean and neat looking. It may have certain vines on it if you wish. Check with staff about which vines are best.
- **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.

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 moving around garden). Mowing between fence and street along 49th St. and Sunshine Dr. along and 10' inside fence.
- PICKING UP TRASH IN COMPOST AREA AND ALONG FENCELINES.
- 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 or campinthegarden@yahoo.com if you feel that you have run out of things to do.

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

Contact both [Kristin Phillips](#) & [Maria Beach](#) to contribute the Weekly Weeder.



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