



# WEEKLY WEEDER

December 22, 2022

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*Prepared: Wrapped plants at Sunshine on December 21*

## Arctic in Austin

As we all know, the Arctic blast is bring temporary changes to Sunshine's operations. The water is turned off (letter sent out to members earlier this week), and there are also changes to the hours of operation (see next article).

We hope that you (and your plants!) stay warm over the next few days.

Here is a bit of cheer, to counter the brrrr. Gardeners Patrick Hagenow (image on left) and Marsha Riti (harvest before the freeze) have submitted lovely images to warm each community garden heart.



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## Front Gate Opening Later & Closing Earlier During Holidays & Freeze

On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day (and again on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day), the front gate will be opened at 8 am and closed at 6 pm.

It will also be opened and closed at these times (8 am and 6 pm) during the current hard freeze. No one wants to be opening gate at sunrise in 15° degree weather. — *Submitted by Jim Willmann*

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## Reminder: December 31 Deadline For

# Completing Fall Service Hours

Fall service hours must be completed by December 31st and recorded in [Green Binder](#) by January 7th. Gardeners joining Sunshine prior to July 1, 2022, will be billed for unworked hours. New gardeners joining July 1, 2022, or later, must work all of their service hours and may not pay for unworked hours. This will be the first season that the penalty will be in effect for failure to timely record hours by the deadline. A gardener recording late will receive only 75% of the credit requested. For example, a gardener requesting credit for 4 service hours worked, but not recorded timely, would receive credit for only 3 hours (75% of 4).

Gardeners are encouraged to check the Green Binder and verify that their service hours for the fall season are correctly recorded. This is the best way to avoid surprises when bills are sent out in mid-January. Gardeners who believe they may qualify for a waiver for all or part of their fall service hours should contact their zone coordinator to discuss (e.g., because of a health condition.) Thank you for helping us keep the community running smoothly at Sunshine Community Gardens! — *Submitted by Jim Willmann*

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## Garden Education by Ila Falvey

Upcoming talk from [Austin Organic Gardeners](#) where P. Wade Ross of [Texas Small Farmers & Ranchers/CBO](#) shares his personal experiences being a black farmer, common pain points, and observations of historically underserved communities past and present. He finishes up with a 5-part formula to change the narrative and level the playing field for Black Farmers within the local food eco-system.

[Pathways to Racial Equity in our Food System](#)

Speaker: P. Wade Ross

Date & Time: Monday, January 9, 2023 @ 6 - 9 p.m. CST

Location: Zilker Botanical Garden & Streaming via Zoom or YouTube

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## Garden Tasks by Steve Camp

Howdy SCG Gardeners! HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!!

THE WATER TO THE TRAILER IS TURNED OFF and BATHROOMS CLOSED UNTIL AT LEAST TUESDAY!  
AGRICULTURAL WATER WILL BE TURNED OFF THURSDAY 12/22/22 UNTIL AT LEAST TUESDAY!

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During the last two weeks of December, 2, zone coordinators and I will be looking at all garden plots for out of compliance conditions before the billing cycle in January. Now is a good time to visit your plot and check for issues that might affect you or your relationship with SCG.

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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.

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NEXT SCHEDULED WORKDAY - in January, day to to be determined.

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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## 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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At some point soon the entrance will be closed for 3-5 hours while asphalt operations are performed. We will send out an email blast when that happens.

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## PRIORITY TASKS

- Mowing and Trimming Fenceline and lawn on either side of fence.  
\*Note\* the North and East 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 leaders 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.
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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 moving around garden). Mowing between fence and street along 49th St. and Sunshine Dr. along and 10' inside fence.

- Picking up trash wherever you see it.
- 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.

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## REGULAR

- 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](mailto: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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