

June 2011

# Tualatin Community Garden

Hosted by Boones Ferry Community Church

June is a big month for harvesting. Warm and hot weather crops should be planted by early June. Make sure to harvest plants once they are mature as they will degrade quickly and attract pests if left in the garden. Greens will degrade especially quickly in hot weather. Your produce can be stored well in the refrigerator, donated to the food pantry, or given away to friends and family.



## Food Pantry - Volunteers Needed

We are hoping to collect extra produce for the food pantry twice a week. We plan to have a bin at the garden on Sunday and Thursday evenings that will be picked up at 8 PM. We need volunteers to collect the bin and deliver the produce to the pantry the next morning. We would also like a volunteer to coordinate the schedule. If you are interested in helping please contact Laurie.

## Garden Mentoring

Laurie is organizing a garden mentoring program. Please contact her if you are new to gardening and would like some help or if you feel you have enough experience to mentor a fellow gardener. She is also available to meet with you if you need some help with the initial stages of your garden.

## Memorial Rose Garden

There is still space available if you are interested in a memorial rose. We will buy, plant, and care for the rose. Each dedicated rose bush will have its own plaque stating whom the rose honors. Suggested donation for each rose and plaque is \$100. Please visit the Tualatin Community Garden website for more information.

## Dates to Remember

- **Saturday, June 25 at 10:00 – 12:30** – Laurie will be teaching a hands-on food preservation class at the Boones Ferry Community Church. Laurie will teach us about preserving, making jams and jellies, canning, and freezing berries. Everyone will take home a jar of homemade jam. Class is limited to 10 people. Cost is \$10.
- **Saturday, June 25 at 1:30 – 3:30** – Tim Lanfri, our master gardener, will be at the garden to answer questions.
- **Wednesday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM** – Bring your own food, blanket, chairs and have dinner with

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your fellow gardeners. If it's raining the picnic will be rescheduled.

- **Friday, July 8** – The TCG will have a booth at the Tualatin Farmer's Market to share our story about starting a community garden, get the word out about the memorial rose garden, and meet people in the community. Please stop by to visit with us.



## What to Plant in June<sup>1</sup>

- Beets
- Broccoli (starts)
- Cabbage (starts)
- Carrots
- Cauliflower (starts)
- Celery (starts)
- Corn
- Cucumbers (starts)
- Kale
- Lettuce (starts)
- Leeks\*
- Parsley (starts)
- Peppers (starts)
- Potatoes (end of June)\*
- Radishes
- Snap beans\*
- Squash (starts)\*

- Tomatoes (starts)

*\*Indicates crops are easiest to grow when planted in May.*

## Smart Water Tips<sup>2</sup>

- **Hand Check** – Use your finger to check the moisture level around your plants before watering. Ideally the soil should be moist below 2 inches.
- **Timing is Important** – When the weather is warm, morning is the best time to water. This allows the plants to absorb the water before it evaporates from the heat. If you can't water in the morning, try the late afternoon making sure there is enough time for the foliage to dry before sun down (this will prevent wet plants from getting fungal disease).
- **Deep and Infrequent** – Seeds and small plants need moisture close to the soil surface. Established plants need deep watering to develop strong roots. Make sure not to overwater since waterlogged soil deprives roots of oxygen.
- **Compost to Conserve Moisture** – Organic material helps to improve soil's moisture holding ability.
- **Mulch** – Top off your beds with mulch in order to keep soil moist. Try materials such as dried grass clippings, straw, bark, and wood chips. Mulching also has the benefit of reducing weeds.

## Useful Links

<http://tualatincommunitygarden.com/index.htm>

<http://www.portlandnursery.com/plants/docs/vegetables/veggie-cal09.pdf>

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## References

<sup>1</sup>Tim Lanfri, Master Gardener, Community Garden Creators

<sup>2</sup>Organic Gardening website:

[http://www.organicgardening.com/learn-and-grow/water-well?page=0,1&cm\\_mmc=OGNews--05112011--learnandgrow--water\\_well](http://www.organicgardening.com/learn-and-grow/water-well?page=0,1&cm_mmc=OGNews--05112011--learnandgrow--water_well)

