

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY GARDEN

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Fall Garden Crop Planting Schedule

A quick go-to guide on what to plant when for a fall harvest

Mid July- Irish potatoes; cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts (either diseeded or start transplants); summer squash

Late July- Direct seed-beets, carrots, snap beans, long-season lettuce (Iceberg type, Romaine, etc.)

Early August- Direct seed spinach, mid season lettuce (Butterhead); set plants of cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, or Brussels sprouts mentioned above); kohlrabi

Mid August- Direct seed radishes, leaf lettuce, greens mixes (Mesculun)

**Peas and onions don't do well in the fall

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

AN UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF THE NORTH GARDENS

I want to thank all of the people who attended the Special Meeting held on Sunday, June 12th, to discuss the issue of Howie's Trash Services proposed purchase of the land that comprises the current North Garden plots. We had a great crowd of nearly 50 people. The meeting was, in my estimation, a very productive one. I will try to briefly summarize what happened during the meeting for those of you who were unable to attend.

The meeting's opening remarks reviewed actions to date of both Howie's and the Community Garden Board after Howie's had informed us of their intention to purchase the land currently leased to UFM for the North Gardens. To mitigate the loss of the North Gardens to us, Howie's offered to provide us land on Temple

Lane and install a water well for our use. The board chose not to accept Howie's Temple Lane offer.

After the Board determined that the Temple Lane site would not satisfactorily address our needs, the board immediately engaged in the following activities:

1. We investigated the current value and status of the City lots that comprise the North Gardens - It is currently appraised at a value of \$45,000 and is zoned light commercial.
2. We continued to investigate other sites on Temple Lane - We did not identify any alternate sites that would address our needs.
3. We investigated various other potential garden sites in and around Manhattan - Potential sites North of Fort Riley Boulevard were not suitable due to soil conditions and other limitations.
4. We investigated multiple locations, both publicly and privately owned, and identified several high potential sites in the Hunter's Island area. The soil at Hunter's Island is comprised of the Eudora sandy/silt loam deposit that is ideal for gardening. One publicly owned site was deemed very attractive during the board's fact finding efforts.
5. The Board developed a long term strategy for dealing with this situation - The focus was on, (continued on pg. 2)



PRESIDENT'S CORNER (CONTINUED FROM PG. 1)

5. (cont.) if at all possible, to make a strong argument to the City for retaining the current North Garden site, while continuing to work to identify potential future sites if Howie's prevails in acquiring the North Gardens.

After the conclusion of my opening remarks the meeting was opened to questions and comments from community garden members. The tone and content of these questions and comments were very positive. It was clear that members of the audience wanted to work to retain the North Gardens and it was also clear that the membership approved of the Board's current approach of making the strongest case possible for the value of the garden

to appropriate elected officials. Many indicated that they were willing to make, based on their past relationships, personal appeals to any of the people who would be involved in a decision to sell the land to Howie's. It was agreed that we would only focus on the positive aspects of a community garden and not on any negative aspects of Howie's offer in our dealings with either the public or elected officials.

We had an extensive Q&A regarding the Board's efforts to identify alternative sites. Many expressed their approval that identifying an alternative site that would accommodate more gardeners than is currently possible at the current location, even if the North gardens are retained, should be pursued by the board.

The meeting started to wrap up after about an hour and the membership was asked if they approved of the board's actions and strategy regarding this critical issue. The membership expressed overwhelming approval of the Board's past efforts and current strategy for dealing with this situation. As President of the Board, I was personally encouraged by the willingness of our gardeners to help us retain the current site in its entirety and to simultaneously continue to identify potential alternate suitable sites. I am convinced that we will emerge from this situation with a community garden that can and will continue to serve us.

Regards,
Dick Green
2011 MCG President

JOIN THE MANHATTAN COMMUNITY GARDEN YAHOO GROUP

A Yahoo group called the Manhattan Community Garden, has been established as a way to create a place where MCG gardeners can go to exchange/giveaway extra vegetable transplants, seeds and garden produce to fellow MCG gardeners as well as a place where community gardeners can go to exchange gardening ideas and find a little help with their gar-

den, such as finding a gardener who might be able to water your garden plot while you are on vacation this summer. Anyone who is a member of the MCG Yahoo group can post a message to the MCG group page. As a member of the group, you can opt to receive the messages posted by other members as individual e-mails, a daily digest of mes-

sages or just view them all on the MCG group page. If you are interested in what another gardener is offering, such as free tomato plants, you can simply send a message to that gardener. If you are interested in becoming a part of this group, please send an e-mail to board member, Erika Huber at erikahuber17@gmail.com or simply search Yahoo groups for the Manhattan Community Garden group page and request to join.

GROWING SEASON IS HERE: BE KIND TO YOUR PLANTS AND YOUR NEIGHBORS

BY RON DOWNEY-MCG VICE PRESIDENT

We are hitting the peak growing season! All of our vegetable plants are just jumping out of the ground. *This is the GOOD news.*

The BAD news is that the weeds are doing the same thing.

Weeds are very bad for at least two important reasons:

- ◆ First, weeds rob your vegetables of needed: 1) water, 2) light, and 3) nutrients. When you let the weeds grow you significantly reduce the quality and quantity of your vegetables. Further, when the weeds mature, the seeds drop and more weeds happen both this year and next year.

- ◆ Second, what some of you may not think of is that you are causing problems for your neighbors. Not just neighbors in the adjoining



plots, but neighbors many plots away. Many weeds (including grass-the lawn type) produce seeds that can blow in our Kansas winds to other peoples' plots several blocks away. People can carry the weed seeds as well to other plots on their clothes.

Even though hoeing and pulling weeds can be hard work, weeding regularly will benefit both you and your gardening neighbors. Further, the Manhattan Community Garden rules require you to control the weeds. We will be monitoring the garden on a regular basis and when weeds are out of control, you will be cited and required to control them. Failure to do this, can lead to you losing your garden privileges.

*PLEASE BE KIND TO
YOUR PLANTS AND
YOUR NEIGHBORS:*

*PULL and/or HOE
THOSE WEEDS!*

FALL GARDENING OVERVIEW By Dr. Chuck Marr

This overview is to give you a general description of what fall gardening is all about and some considerations about growing things in our wonderful autumn season. Fall gardening is one of the best kept garden secrets (but now you know the secret). You can 'double crop' or repeat nearly everything you did in the spring, the flavor and quality of fall grown things exceeds spring planted crops, there are fewer

insects and weeds to deal with, and it's easy to do (hoping that the Kansas weather cooperates a little).

Fall gardening generally applies to cool season crops that thrive in cool weather. They will withstand some freezing temperatures so you may be harvesting things as late as early December (last year I harvested spinach in the 2nd week of Dec). However, what we do for

fall planting is exactly the opposite of how we plant in the spring. Instead of planting all things at one time and harvesting those things that take a short time first followed by later maturing things, in the fall we start planting those things that take the longest time to develop first followed by short-season things later. Everything sequenced to begin harvesting in late Sept and can continue for as long as the
(continued on pg. 6)

DONATE EXTRA GARDEN PRODUCE TO THOSE IN NEED

As everyone who has planted a garden before knows, you always end up with more food than you can eat. The summer is a bountiful harvest season here in Kansas with tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, melons and the like, thriving in this hot, humid climate. If you find yourself with more veggies than you know what to do with this summer growing season, consider donating your extras to the local food pantry, emergency shelter, senior center or one of several churches in Manhattan who offer community dinners or run a weekly food pantry (did you know there is food pantry that operates at a different area church five days of the week?). The contact information and location of these donation sites can be found below and on the next page.

If you have extra produce to donate, but are unable to harvest it due to being on vacation, time constraints, energy, etc., there is one other option. Scott Arnold coordinates a volunteer gleaning project here in Manhattan in collaboration with the

Society of St. Andrew. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the term, "gleaning" is the act of collecting leftover crops that would otherwise be left in the field to rot or be plowed under after the harvest is complete. The Society of St. Andrew coordinates a national gleaning network of volunteers, farmers and food distribution agencies to help to increase the amount of fresh produce available to those in need by harvesting and/or obtaining leftover crops from farmers' fields and distributing it to local food pantries. Any produce that is gleaned from the Manhattan Community Garden will be taken to the Flint Hills Bread Basket here in Manhattan for distribution to needy families and individuals. If you find yourself with extra produce this growing season and would like some help harvesting and distributing it to those in need, please do not hesitate to contact Scott Arnold with the Society of St. Andrew at 913-522-7769. You can also contact board member Erika Huber at 406-600-5884 or erikahuber17@gmail.com who would be happy

Local donation sites for extra garden produce:

Flint Hills Breadbasket (local food pantry)

905 Yuma St.
Manhattan, KS 66052
(785) 537-0730

*Accepts donations Monday-Friday: 8am-12pm and 1pm to 4pm. Donated food is brought inside to prevent spoilage and to distribute to food pantry patrons.

*After business hours, donations can be left on the pallets in front of the building

Manhattan Emergency Shelter (local homeless shelter)

416 S. 4th St.
Manhattan, KS 66502
(785) 537-3113

*Accepts donations everyday of the week from 8am-9pm.

Riley County Senior Service Center

(local Senior Center)
412 Leavenworth St.
Manhattan, KS 66502
(785) 537-4040

*Accepts donations Monday-Friday: 8:30am-4pm. Senior Center patrons, many of whom are on fixed incomes, would love to take home fresh produce. *Any donated produce that is leftover could be used in the lunches that are served daily at the Senior Center.



Local Churches Accepting Food Donations:

First Congregational United Church of Christ

700 Poyntz Avenue
 Manhattan, KS 66502
 (785) 537-7006

*Offers a **Sunday** evening soup kitchen to those in need. Contact MCG board member Dale Sterns, who helps to coordinate these meals at (785) 410-4318 if you have any food donations.

St. Paul's Episcopalian Church

601 Poyntz Ave.
 Manhattan, KS 66502
 (785) 776-9427

*Offers a breakfast to those in need every **Tuesday** and **Friday** morning from 7-9am. Donations can be dropped off during these breakfasts and will be set out for breakfast patrons to take home with them.

First United Methodist Church

612 Poyntz Ave.
 Manhattan, KS 66502
 (785) 776-8821

*Offers a food pantry on **Monday** afternoons from 1-3:30pm and a community meal on **Wednesday** evenings. Drop off food donations in the church office by 1pm on **Mondays** for the food pantry or by 4pm on **Wednesdays** for the community meal.

Grace Baptist Church

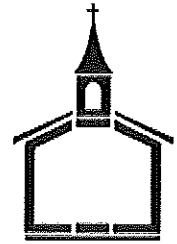
2901 Dickens Ave.
 Manhattan, KS 66502
 (785) 776-0424

*Offers a food pantry on **Tuesdays** from 1-3:30pm. Donations dropped off before 12:30pm on **Tuesdays**, should be taken to the church office. After 12:30pm, food donations can be dropped off at the Faulkner Annex, just south of the church.

First Lutheran Church

930 Poyntz Ave.
 Manhattan, KS 66502
 (785) 537-8532

*Offers a food pantry on **Wednesdays** from 1-3:30pm. Drop off food donations in the church office before 4pm on **Tuesday** or before noon on **Wednesday**.



Seven Dolors Catholic Church

731 Pierre St.
 Manhattan, KS 66502

*Offers a food pantry on **Thursdays** from 1-4pm. Food donations can be taken to the church office by 5pm on **Wednesdays** or by noon on **Thursdays**.

First Presbyterian Church

801 Leavenworth St.
 Manhattan, KS 66502
 (785) 537-0518

*Offers a **Tuesday** night community dinner and a food pantry on **Fridays** from 1-3pm. Contact the church directly if you have any garden produce to donate.

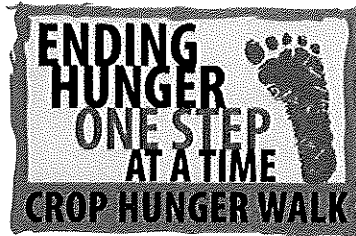
**For more information on the Society of St. Andrew, visit endhunger.org



MANHATTAN COMMUNITY GARDENERS HELP CROP STOP HUNGER BY DALE STEARNS

CROP stands for Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty. The annual CROP Hunger Walk is held in October in Manhattan and throughout the country. Funds raised from the Walk help fight poverty in our local community and throughout the world. Church World Service is the organization that administers the aid globally. The 25% of the raised funds that remains locally goes to support community efforts to stop hunger such as the Flint Hills Bread Basket. The Manhattan Community Garden receives an annual donation from CROP to subsidize the Gar-

the leasing costs of gardeners who have a financial need. Over 20 gardeners have benefited from the subsidy for 2011.



Manhattan Community Gardeners support the CROP Walk through donations. So far in 2011, 65 gardeners have pledged a total of \$383 in donations to CROP. This represents 62% of the gardeners.

This is a huge increase over the 15 gardeners who donated a total of \$150 in 2010.

If you haven't already pledged, you still can for 2011. A request for pledges will be made to gardeners in August and September prior to the October CROP Hunger Walk. Dale Stearns is the Board liaison with CROP. He will send out details about how to pledge and also how to participate in the Walk and garner additional pledges. Look for more information about this opportunity later this summer.

Help CROP Stop Hunger!

(Fall Gardening Overview continued from pg. 3)

weather remains fairly moderate—at least a month and a half or more.

There are a few things that you need to do to get ready. First of all, till the soil and allow the soil to settle before planting. You will be planting in a hot, dry time of year and so pre-watering the area before planting is a good idea. You can work in a little compost but don't get carried away. Save your intensive composting for winter tillage. Also, fall crops will generally use fertilizer not used by

spring crops so you won't need to fertilize much for a repeat crop if you grew adequate crops in the spring or summer in that spot. If you do fertilize, use only about ½ the rate you would use in the spring. Also, for those crops that can be transplanted, you can start seedling plants in a protected location (i.e. under a shade tree in your backyard) and grow transplants that can be set out later than you would need to start direct seeded plants. This works well for cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, and lettuce. You will want to direct seed spinach, beets, carrots, radishes and turnips.

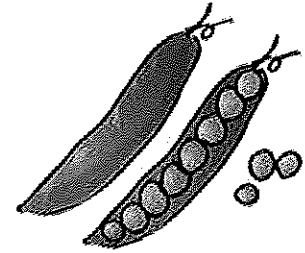
Next, when you sow seeds in the garden plant them about twice as deep as you do in the spring. This will get them into cooler and moist soil. Keep watering until the seeds begin to come up. Then, you can gradually back off watering. There are a few warm season crops that can be planted for a fall harvest too. The main difference is that these crops will not tolerate any freezes and will slow down dramatically in the late summer (September).

**Watch for future entries on fall gardening in Chuck Marr's weekly electronic newsletter.*

FOR THE GARDEN OF YOUR DAILY LIVING,

PLANT THREE ROWS OF PEAS :

1. Peace of mind
2. Peace of heart
3. Peace of soul



PLANT FOUR ROWS OF SQUASH:

1. Squash gossip
2. Squash indifference
3. Squash grumbling
4. Squash selfishness



PLANT FOUR ROWS OF LETTUCE:

1. Lettuce be faithful
2. Lettuce be kind
3. Lettuce be patient
4. Lettuce really love one another



NO GARDEN IS COMPLETE WITHOUT TURNIPS:

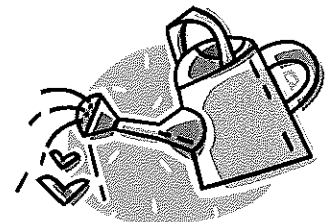


1. Turnip for meetings
2. Turnip for service
3. Turnip to help one another

TO CONCLUDE OUR GARDEN WE MUST HAVE THYME:



1. Thyme for each other
2. Thyme for family
3. Thyme for friends



WATER FREELY WITH PATIENCE AND CULTIVATE WITH LOVE.

**Manhattan Community
Gardens c/o UFM**

1221 Thurston Street
Manhattan, KS 66502

We're on the web!
tryufm.org

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Join the Manhattan Community Garden Yahoo Group!

**A place to exchange/giveaway extra plants, seeds
and garden produce as well as a place to share
ideas and lend a hand to fellow MCG gardeners.**

*For more information on how to connect with other
MCG gardeners by simply becoming a part of this
Yahoo group, see the article on pg. 2.

