

WTCGG



## Washington Township Community Garden

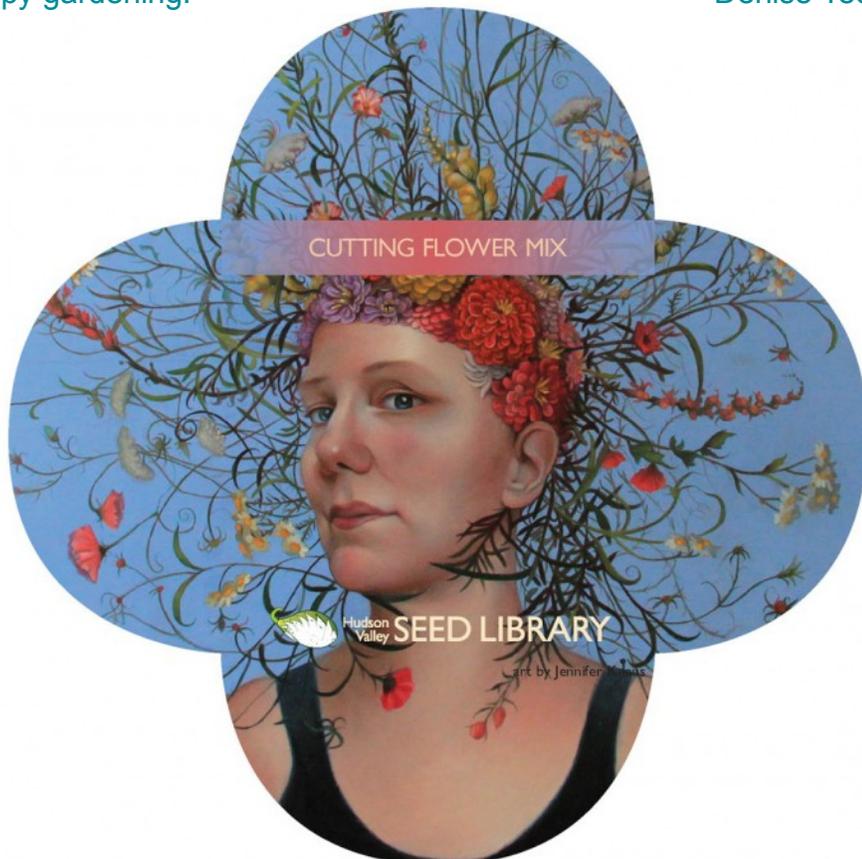
# NEWSLETTER: Gardening Is Cool

As the seasons change and we find ourselves moving into cooler weather, we should anticipate the continued gardening of Fall and Winter. Some of the jobs of the month you will find in the other article on this page as usual.

This year my ongoing fun project is seed buying for winter sowing. I heard about an easier approach to starting seedlings that doesn't require any house space, watering chores or the expense of lighting and heating mats. I Googled and found a lot of info. Here is a [link to a blog](#) I follow and found the simplest approach to winter sowing *with pictures!*

Happy gardening!

~ Denise Tedeschi



**I had to share this artwork. The Hudson Valley Seed Library have been making their seed envelopes with various artists' designs on them. Our own seed library at WTPublic Library will be holding a SEED SAVING WORKSHOP Monday, Oct. 6 from 7:00pm - 8:30pm.**

### SEPTEMBER GARDENING CHORES:

*From www.thegardenhelper.com*  
**As summer winds down to fall**, it is time to clean up the garden and plan for next spring. Remove spent annuals and vegetables and compost them if they are disease free.

**It is time** to plant perennial seeds and bulbs! After soil temperature drops below 60° in the fall months, the spring flowering bulbs of Tulips, Daffodils, Hyacinths, Siberian Squill, Dwarf Irises, Anemone, and Crocus should be planted. Select healthy, disease free bulbs. Add Bone meal or Bulb fertilizer into the planting hole as you prepare the soil.

**Winter Pansies**, Ornamental Kale and Cabbage and fall blooming Chrysanthemums can be planted now to give a little color to the garden when the summer's flowers have faded away

**As the weather cools**, perennials that have overgrown their space or become crowded should be dug and divided or moved to a new area of the garden. New and replacement perennials should also be planted this month. Tender bulbs like Dahlias should be dug up and stored in a cool, dark area after first frost.

**Although most** fruits and vegetables are best when eaten fresh on the day they're picked, you can extend the season by freezing, drying, storing, or canning. Fruits and vegetables should be checked regularly for

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 ripeness. A little practice and experience will tell you when your produce is at it's peak of flavor, and that is when it should be harvested.

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The WTCG is a "dream-come-true" for me! Thank-you to every person who rented a plot! I can't believe I am growing my own vegetables, instead of just reading gardening magazines! I only wish I could have brought my boys down when they were younger!  
 Diane Muenzen



To forget how to dig the earth and to tend the soil is to forget ourselves.  
 ~Mahatma Gandhi

## GARDENERS

## SPEAK OUT:

My husband, Ralph, and I have never liked squash but after we saw the beautiful yellow and green squash from the garden that I share with my neighbor, Katherine Cornell, we knew we needed to adjust our palates. We tried this recipe from the July/August 2014 issue of Health magazine and we are now zucchini lovers! (A funny side note to this story is that I mistakenly bought the squash plants thinking they were cucumbers! The WTCG has truly been a horticultural and gastronomical growth experience.)  
 Karen Cifrese

I moved to Long Valley many years ago with high hopes of having a beautiful garden. Then came the rocky soil and all the creatures enjoying my efforts! When the community garden became a reality I couldn't wait to have my little piece of earth. I have learned so much about gardening just looking at all the creative efforts of my fellow gardeners. If you haven't seen our garden, stop by Palmer Park and enjoy this wonderful asset to our community.  
 Nancy San George

This is my second year with the Community Garden, in March I added a mason bee house, mason bees are so named for the compartments of mud they make to fill up their nests. Mason bees are great pollinators and they do not sting! My bee house is made of bamboo tubes, but mason bees will use hollow reeds or holes in wood made by other insects. They are solitary bees and do not produce honey. It is great fun to be involved with the garden, you meet new and interesting people, and we all share the love (and woes) of gardening. This year I planted two plantings of both snow peas and radishes (spring/fall) a host of varieties of tomatoes, kale, Swiss Chard, cucumbers, sugar bush water melons, beets, peppers and parsnips.  
 Joanne Mulvihill

# HAPPENINGS in the garden...

## WTCG Takes A Seat!

By now you have seen the wonderful new addition to our garden in the center area. Boy Scout Connor Onweller ( with some help from his Dad, Alan, and the guys in his Troop) has built us four very sturdy benches with planter boxes for us to enjoy. We will enjoy them for years to come! Thank-you Connor for your hard work and dedication to the task. Congratulations on becoming an Eagle Scout!



## Fall Planter Contest

As you have probably seen we have new benches with planter boxes in the center area of the garden!! A BIG thank you to Boy Scout Connor Onweller!

The WTCG would like to **announce a contest (yes, with prizes)** for the **best/most interesting/creative planter box**. The theme is **"Fall in the Valley"**. The contest is limited to eight containers, which we have purchased. Please **email Diane Muenzen asap** if you would like to enter the contest and I will get a container to you along with a number. Entries can be from an individual or a team. Please identify your container **ONLY** with its number. The container can contain a mix of annuals/perennials and other decorative items. Please use a sterile potting mix. You may bring your container to the garden as early as **Monday, September 15th, but no later than Monday, September 29th**. The contest is open to WTCG gardeners, and members of the GC of Long Valley.

## ATTENTION GARDENERS



**"Nice try, Frida, you make a great ladybug but **dogs are not allowed in the garden on a leash or in a costume!**"**



**click slate to visit our webpage for video!**



## Green Festival

On Saturday, August 16th, the WTCG participated in the town sponsored **Green Festival** held in Rock Spring Park. We displayed photos of the garden, and Tiago Neto made a very creative poster showing our donations to the food pantry to date. We also previewed an exciting **new video of the WTCG** created especially for us by our fellow gardener and videographer, Kyle Krukar. Thank-you Tiago and Kyle!

We also sold a few T-shirts!! ....which reminds me that we still have some left if you have been meaning to get one all summer. Don't be shy, we have one with your name on it! Thanks to all who volunteered their time at our booth!

email: [kkrukar@comcast.net](mailto:kkrukar@comcast.net)



Check out Joanne's carrots. YUMMY!



## A View From Plot 14

**Busy times at the garden**, I have been roasting tomatoes, freezing sauce and doing A LOT of tomato eating, trying to get my fill before the season ends.

**My second harvests** are also now producing, so enjoying many reruns from the Spring.

**The garden** this year has seen great improvements, but there is always room for improvement.

**Weeds and Bugs** seem to be a huge issue this year, I think my success is linked to spraying an organic pest control early on, before bugs or disease hits, and then do follow ups per instructions on the spray. Most stores these days do carry organic products, just be sure to read the labels well and follow instructions.

**Now onto weeds!** We all know that according to the garden rules we are to tend to weeding our gardens and ALSO the mulched area outside of your plots..having mulch down does help with the weeds, and makes them easier to pull if some get growing. There are also community areas that need weeding, this is where you can apply your volunteer hours, even out of kindness to improve the overall look of the garden. Although we try hard, a few select weeding fairies can't do it all!

If you find you cannot tend to all your weeds, consider using a good weed block fabric, I use this for most of my plot, makes life a lot easier, and try to get a good quality one that won't tear and it does need a lot of garden staples to keep it held down, water will get through, and weeds won't.

**It has been fun** trying new things with my plot, and of course you learn by trial and error sometimes. I added an Earthbox to add flower interest in the front of my plot, which is sort of big and bulky, and behind that are my very berry tomatoes, between the two of them, it was congestion city, and I know a better air flow through the garden is best. It's on the line of over planting sort of. So I think I will bring my earthbox home, and for the very berry tomatoes, space them away from each other.

**For the grassy areas** I borrowed a lawnmower from the gentleman who mows my lawn, and Diane mows. Please do not throw rocks from your garden in these areas, hitting the rocks with the mower causes blade damage!

**Stephanie and Valter** were successful in taking over the food pantry deliveries, but it is sad to see that on Sundays and Mondays many plots have fruits ripe for picking, but go neglected into getting into the cooler. If you are vacationing please reach out to someone who could put your produce to a good cause, and also will assist if you need watering to be done. Most likely with the season coming to an end, we will stop the delivery, but you can certainly bring your excess to the pantry yourselves if you have an abundance.

**Next on my list** will be the cleanup of the plot, I have already started to pull some plants, and shortly thereafter will remove my fabric and staples (discarding at home) and will turn over the garden before winter sets in. If you do encounter rocks, which I did this past year, kindly bring them up the outside pathway to the tree line where you will see other rocks from when we originally started the garden process are piled.

Joanne Mulvihill



# EVENTS...

## SEPTEMBER

### September 17 - Grow, Cook, Eat: Tomato Redux

At The Frelinghuysen Arboretum - from 7:00 to 8:30 PM

353 East Hanover Ave, Morristown NJ

Cost: \$15 members/\$20 non-members

Register on line at <http://www.arboretumfriends.org/Events> or call 973-326-7603

### September 20 and 21 - Waterloo Festival

At Waterloo Village - Sept 20 - 11:00AM to 9:00PM and Sept 21 - 11:00AM to 6:00PM

525 Waterloo Road, Byram, NJ 07874. (Use Stanhope, NJ, for GPS purposes.)

Workshops of our gardeners interest, in addition to concerts, cooking demonstrations and other family activities.

- Foraging hikes (native / wild plants, mushrooms)

- Fishing (fly and trout)

- Backyard chickens

Advance and weekend passes available for on line purchase.

<http://highlandsfestivalatwaterloo.org>

**September 20 – Pressed Flower Workshop** - Dorothy Kovak & Linda Conrad, experienced artists, will lecture on the art of pressed flowers and botanicals. Important techniques will be demonstrated. You will then create a 5" x 7" picture or two greeting cards of your own.

At the Well-Sweep Herb Farm from 10AM-12noon

205 Mt Bethel Rd, Port Murray, NJ

Cost: \$28.00.

Reservations are required <http://www.wellsweep.com/>

### September 21 – Cooking Demonstration: Fall Harvest Menu

At The Frelinghuysen Arboretum 1:00 to 3:00PM

353 East Hanover Ave, Morristown NJ

Cost: \$20 members/\$25 non-members

Register on line at <http://www.arboretumfriends.org/Events> or call 973-326-7603 by Sept 14

**September 27 – Pumpkin, pumpkin, pumpkin** - With fall in the air and the holidays approaching come and listen to a lecture on the versatility of this vine growing fruit. Large, round and plump it's great for decorating and delicious nourishing dishes – not to mention the famous and favorite pumpkin pie. From appetizers to desserts come enjoy a tasty lunch based on pumpkin.

At the Well-Sweep Herb Farm from 11AM-1:00PM

205 Mt Bethel Rd, Port Murray, NJ

Cost: \$36.00.

Reservations are required <http://www.wellsweep.com/>

**September 28 – Fungus Fest** – A day full of fungi related activities including lectures, walks and displays.

At The Frelinghuysen Arboretum 10:00 AM to 4PM

353 East Hanover Ave, Morristown NJ

Free and open to the public. Donations welcome.

**September 27 - Fall Into Winter Gardening** - Saturday at 1pm. Washington Twp Public Library. Master Gardener Gail Di Domenico will tell you everything you need to know to get your lawn, trees, shrubs, perennials, vegetable garden and ornamental beds ready for winter. Many more winterizing chores will be discussed as well.

### September 30 - Preserving The Harvest - Tues. 7pm.

Washington Twp. Public Library. Learn the basics of canning, drying, fermenting and other methods of preserving summer and fall's bounty. This program, presented by Kate Munning, will offer handouts and recipes to get you started, some good sources of information, and a live demonstration. There's nothing like eating your own canned tomatoes in the middle of winter!

## OCTOBER

### October 11 – Fall harvest celebration and Theodore Roosevelt

- Join the 14th annual fall harvest gathering with honored guest, Theodore Roosevelt – our 26th president. A war hero, avid outdoorsman, naturalist and historian. Acclaimed actor, Peyton Dixon, from the American Historical Theatre will portray President Roosevelt in a captivating re-enactment; combining his passion for performance and American history. Enjoy a delicious feast and entertaining evening.

At the Well-Sweep Herb Farm from 6:00PM to 9:00PM

205 Mt Bethel Rd, Port Murray, NJ

Cost: \$63.00.

Reservations are required <http://www.wellsweep.com/>

### October 15 - Grow, Cook, Eat: Potatoes

At The Frelinghuysen Arboretum 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Cost: \$15 members/\$20 non-members

Register on line at <http://www.arboretumfriends.org/Events> or call 973-326-7603

**October 19 – Scarecrows in the Garden** (make a scarecrow, see a pumpkin carving demo, apple tasting, make an apple craft, enjoy cider and donuts)

At The Frelinghuysen Arboretum 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Cost: \$25 members/\$30 non-members

Register on line at <http://www.arboretumfriends.org/Events> or call 973-326-7603 by Oct 12. Free for family and extended family members

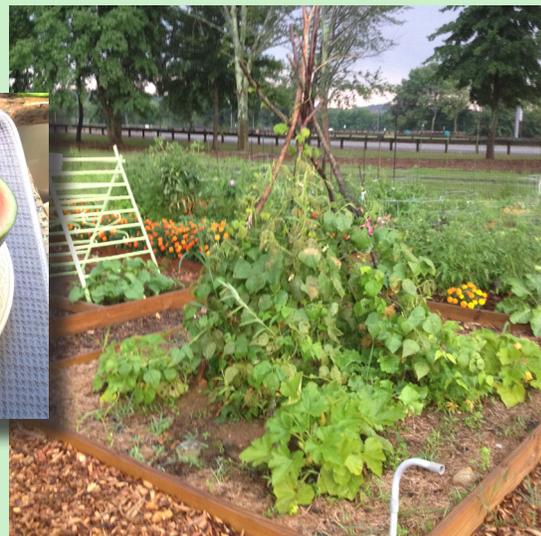
### October 25 – Grow great garlic

At The Frelinghuysen Arboretum 11:00 AM to 12:30 or 2:00 to 3:30 PM

Cost: \$10 members/\$12 non-members

Register on line at <http://www.arboretumfriends.org/Events> or call 973-326-7603 by Oct 18. Gourmet garlic cloves will be sold for \$1 each – bring cash or check

# August gallery



# Help Support Our COMMUNITY GARDEN

Please share this page with people in the community that you feel would like to help support our wonderful town garden so it will be here for generations to come. Details and donation forms may be found on our website: [www.wtcommunitygarden.jimdo.com](http://www.wtcommunitygarden.jimdo.com)

## Business & Personal Sponsorships

With your help we will be able to have the basics every garden needs.

For your sponsorship we will plant bulbs, place pavers & stepping stones or plant a fruit tree in your name.



<p><b>Fruit Tree</b></p> <p>Large logo featured on website. A Fruit Tree planted in WTCG with dedication plaque.</p> <p><b>\$500 +</b></p>	<p>Sponsored by Luigi's Pizza Joe &amp; Maria</p> <p><b>Stepping Stone</b></p> <p>Medium logo featured on website. Engraved Bluestone Stepping Stone placed in WTCG.</p> <p><b>\$250 - \$499</b></p>	<p>Joe &amp; Maria Santos</p> <p><b>Brick Paver</b></p> <p>Small logo featured on website. Engraved Paver placed in WTCG.</p> <p><b>\$100 - \$249</b></p>	 <p><b>1 Doz. Bulbs</b></p> <p>Name featured on website. One dozen bulbs planted in WTCG.</p> <p><b>\$50</b></p>
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