GREATER LANSING foodbank GARDEN PROJECT

MEMBER OF FEEDING AMERICA

Garden NOTES

Spring 2017

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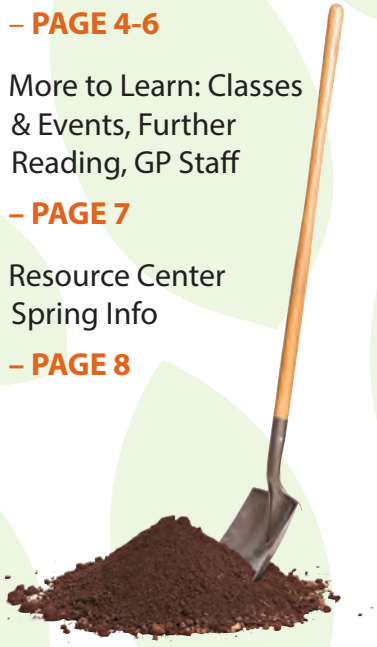


Garden Project Staff:

Dilli Chapagai
Immigrant & Refugee Liaison

Ben Crocker
Gardens & Buildings Maintenance Coordinator

Julie Lehman
Garden Project Manager

Majel Maes
Office & Administrative Coordinator

Hilary Parkinson
Garden Resource Coordinator

Hayduke, Garden Project Team Dog

Hello Garden Friends!

As you know, Garden Project has always been about much more than the number of veggies grown each season. It is about creating the opportunity for all community members to grow the food that they want to eat. This includes food that is locally grown; food that is traditional to our diets; and food that is healthy and nutritious for our families. As part of Greater Lansing Food Bank, Garden Project has provided resources and land access for over 30 years, so gardeners can be self-reliant and the community has greater capacity to prevent hunger into the future. Thank you for being a part of this network and this work! We are constantly inspired by your willingness to get your hands dirty and engage. We wish you a happy and bountiful growing season and look forward to being by your side, out in the garden, very soon!

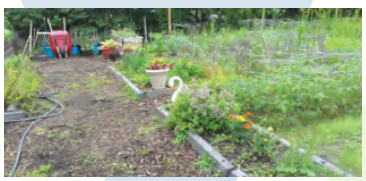
GLFB Featured Gardens:

Lilac Garden is one of the oldest gardens in the area and is tucked into the Flowerpot neighborhood of East Lansing. The loamy, mineral soil is great at holding moisture and many areas of the garden were cover cropped in 2016 to increase organic matter. The garden is fully fenced. Contact Garden Project to register.

Towar Garden received an overhaul last year... box elder trees were removed to increase sun exposure, cover crops planted and most importantly, it is now FULLY FENCED! This garden has a hand pump and a fully stocked tool shed. It is a beautiful space to grow in and would welcome your involvement. Contact Garden Project to register.

St. Mike's Community Garden is located at 6500 Amwood St., on the south side of Lansing. It is in a great location – a green jewel in the midst of a concrete jungle - and has a fun, supportive community of gardeners that grow there. To get involved, contact Pastor Nikki at st.michael.lansing@gmail.com or 882-9733.

Der Happy Hollow Community Garden is nestled into the Hunt Kiwana's Club property in Mason. This is a public, grow-your-own garden, aimed at strengthening community. The site has easy water access, is fully fenced and features many other charming amenities. Contact Ron at 281-9358 to reserve a plot.



Capital City Vineyard Community Garden was established in 2007 and offers plots to neighbors and the community. This fully fenced garden features easy parking and water access, as well as soil with high organic matter levels. Contact ccvgarden@gmail.com or call 337-9121 to sign up!

There are more than **125 gardens** in the Garden Project network!

Want to grow your own food? Choose a Grow-Your-Own garden, where what you grow there is yours to eat, give away, preserve, donate, sell... your choice! You do the work, you reap the rewards. The gardens listed in **bold** denote Grow-Your-Own gardens with plots available to the general public. Looking to give back and build community? Gardens with an asterisk* denote sites that have a youth, communal or donation focus.

Next, where do you want to garden? Once you've decided on which type of garden, you may still have many community gardens to choose from. Is location most important? Community culture? Water access? Raised beds? Every garden is different! Feel free to contact us for more information on any of the gardens or refer to our website for a full description.

Garden Project only registers the 18 gardens listed on the next page but **MANY, including those below, would welcome your participation!**

Visit **glfoodbank.org** or call us, **(517)853-7809**, for info on how to get involved at a garden near you.

LANSING – EAST

Firehouse Community Garden*
Holmes Street Garden*
Learning Leaves Garden*
Prospect Place Pocket of Peace*
Rooster Square*

LANSING – WEST

Delta Presbyterian*
Madison Chestnut Garden Patch*
Old Oakland*

LANSING – NORTH

Cristo Rey*
Hawk Valley*
Old Town Community

MASON & LESLIE

Der Happy Hollow
Eden Church Garden*
Mason Comm. Garden*
Leslie Congregational*

LANSING – SOUTH

123 Garden*
Cavanaugh Park
Cedarbrook
Colonial Village Youth Garden*
Feed My Sheep
Garden of Grace
REO Grand
Restoring Our Community*
Robinson Memorial*
Salvation Army*
St.Casimir Moore's Park
St. David's Episcopal Church*
St. Mike's*
Tithe Baptist Church
Village Summit*
Webster Farm

EAST LANSING – MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP

Capital City Vineyard*
Eastminster Presbyterian Church*
Northwind
Wardcliff*

EATON COUNTY

Grand Ledge Community Garden
Union St. Community Garden

CLINTON COUNTY

Northpointe in DeWitt*
Bath Community Garden*
Gardens on Scott Rd. in St. Johns

FURTHER NORTH!

Campus Grow at CMU
Coleman Community Garden*

GREATER LANSING
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Use the registration form on the next page to sign up for any of the following 18 Lansing area gardens:

Airport Garden (2027 W State Rd., 48906)	*Largest of the Garden Project gardens. Tools on site. Water source: pump*
Armory (626 Marshall St., 48912)	*Lots of options! Organic section and no-till plots available. Tools on site. Additional $5 water fee. Water source: hose*
Clifford Park (550 E. Mt. Hope Ave., 48910)	*Fills up fast! Has an organic section & tools on site. Water source: barrels*
ELF (804 Clyde St., 48915)	*Small, all organic garden. Tools on site. Water source: barrels*
Foster (2325 Marcus St., 48912)	*Located right by Resource Center! Tools on site. Water source: barrels*
Grace Lutheran (528 N. MLK Jr., 48915)	*Tools on site. Water source: hose*
Hill (2815 Wise Rd., 48911)	*Fills up fast! Tools on site. Water source: barrels*
Letts (1220 W. Kalamazoo St., 48915)	*Fills up fast! Tools on site. Water source: barrels*
Lilac (1260 Lilac St., 48823)	*Plenty of space & surrounded by beautiful nature! Fully fenced. Has an organic section. Water source: barrels*
North School (333 E. Miller Rd., 48911)	*Very popular garden on the south side. Water source: barrels*
Orchard Court (5745 Orchard Ct., 48911)	*Many of the gardeners live nearby. Additional $10 water fee. Water source: barrels*
Otto School (500 E. Thomas St., 48906)	*Great for north side residents! Water source: hose*
Paradise (550 S. Foster Ave., 48912)	*Located right by Resource Center! Leadership opportunities available . Contact Garden Project for info. Water source: barrels*
Pine & St. Joe (522 W. St. Joe, 48933)	*Very cute downtown garden. Water source: barrels*
Risdale (2400 Reo Rd., 48911)	*Space available this year. Water source: hose*
Roots Garden (1084 Hagadorn Rd., Mason, 48854)	*Largest plots available. Tools on site. Water source: barrels*
Slater Park (2701 Hopkins Ave., 48912)	*All organic garden. Tools on site. Water source: barrels*
Towar (6370 Towar Ave., 48823)	*Fully fenced. Lots of space. Tools on site. Water source: pump*

2017 Community Garden Guidelines

Please read before signing the registration page

Keep this page for your records

To be eligible for a plot you must agree to the **community garden guidelines** listed below & pay your **plot fee.**
If you are a returning gardener, please submit your registration by **April 16th** to reserve your same plot.

1) **Plant your garden within 2 weeks of plot assignment.** Control weeds, and keep your plot weeded throughout the season, including paths bordering plot. Before you register, please make sure you can spend 2-4 hours each week over the course of the 2017 season to maintain your plot.
2) **Do not leave trash or plastic plant containers & trays at gardens.** Keep your garden trash-free throughout the season. At the end of the season, remove all string, stakes, fencing, trash.
3) **Do not harvest from anyone else's plot without permission in advance.** Violation of this agreement will result in loss of your plot and termination of present & future Garden Project services and privileges. Please report any vandalism, theft, or unusual behavior to your site coordinator(s) &/or Garden Project office.
4) **Respect other's plots. Do not walk in them unless invited.**
5) If you are gardening in an organic section, follow the NOP *(National Organic Program)* Guidelines. No synthetic chemicals (i.e. pesticides, fertilizers, MiracleGro, etc.) may be used. **We highly discourage synthetic chemicals *in any plot*.**
6) **Dogs are not permitted in garden unless assisting the disabled.**
7) **Follow any rules specific to your garden.**
8) **You risk losing your gardening privileges for the next year if...**
   - **you do not return borrowed tools to the Resource Center**
   - **you abandon your plot without notice**
     Abandoned plots will be reassigned if left inactive for 2 weeks and we cannot reach you via phone or email for 2 weeks.
   - **your plot is not cleaned up by the 10-22-17 deadline**
     If you do not clean up your plot at the end of the season, you will be prohibited from gardening with us the following season.

Community Garden Plot Fee

Our fees, along with generous donations, allow us to purchase materials & supplies for the gardens.

If you do not pay your plot fees, you will not be able to garden with us again until paying past due fees.

Suggested plot fees:

Very low/low income: $10-15 per plot

Moderate income: $20-25 per plot

Market value: $30-50 per plot

❒ I attached a check to my registration
(Make check payable to: Garden Project)

❒ I paid by phone **(517) 853-7809**

We are a non-profit organization. **Thank you for your generosity in paying what you are able**.

If the fee places too much of a financial burden on you, please contact the Garden Project for a plot fee waiver.

GROW-A-ROW! We encourage you to donate extra produce to a food pantry near you.

If you do not harvest your vegetables in a timely manner, we reserve the right to authorize harvesting & donating crops.

Waiver & Release of Liability

I understand the nature and expectations of GLFB's gardening and volunteer activities. I acknowledge that there may be certain risks of injury involved and I knowingly and freely assume all such risks and assume full responsibility for my participation. I hereby release and discharge GLFB and its agents from any and all liability, claims, demands, or causes of action that I may hereafter have for injuries or damages arising out of my participation in such volunteering activities. I agree to indemnify, save, and hold harmless GLFB, its employees, agents, representatives, affiliates, and volunteers of any loss, claim, damage, injury, illness, costs, or harm of any kind or nature to me arising out of any and all activities associated which may occur or be incident to my involvement or participation with GLFB.

GREATER LANSING foodbank GARDEN PROJECT — MEMBER OF FEEDING AMERICA

2017 Registration

Return registration form by mail to:

Garden Project
PO Box 16224
Lansing, MI 48901

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY **Use one form per household**

First Name: _____ **Last Name(s):**_____

Address:_____

City:_____ **State**:_____ **ZIP code**:_____

Organization (optional):_____

County: ❒Ingham ❒Eaton ❒Clinton ❒Gratiot ❒Shiawassee ❒Clare ❒Isabella ❒Other_____

Phone:_____ **Email**:_____

CLEARLY MARK (X) BELOW
in which garden you want a plot:

_____Airport
_____Armory
_____Clifford Park
_____ELF
_____Foster
_____Grace Lutheran
_____Hill
_____Letts
_____Lilac
_____North School
_____Orchard Court
_____Otto
_____Paradise
_____Pine & St. Joe
_____Risdale
_____Roots Garden
_____Slater Park
_____Towar

COMMUNITY GARDENS

Note: We only register gardens on the left.

Many other gardens, which are part of our network, do not use this registration form.
For info on the other gardens, please check our website or call (517) 853-7809.

Average community garden plot size is 25'x25'.
If available, do you want an extra plot? ❒ Yes ❒ No

Which garden, *from list in the shaded box:* _____
(Experienced gardeners only, please.)

Do you garden organically, following organic standards? ❒ Yes ❒ No

HOME GARDEN SUPPORT

- Income Eligible Only -
(Plants seeds, tools, etc. are to be used at community garden ONLY,
***UNLESS** you are eligible for Home Garden Support)*

Would you like to receive home services? ❒ Yes ❒ No
(seeds, plants, tool library)

What is the size of your home garden in feet? (Ex. 20'x20') _____

ALL GARDENERS: The information below will remain confidential.
It is used for statistical purposes only in order to fund the Garden Project & provide better service.

How many persons live in your household? ____

Annual gross household income (of all persons over 18):

___ $0-36,750
___ $36,751-42,000
___ $42,001-47,250
___ $47,251-52,500
___ $52,501-56,700
___ $56,701-60,900
___ $60,901-65,100
___ $65,101-69,300
___ $69,301-more

Highest education of head of household ❒High school or less ❒Some college ❒Four-year college ❒Graduate school

What primary language do you speak? _____

Other language(s)? _____

With or without children, my household is a...

❒single female ❒single male ❒couple

Household Racial/Ethnic Group(s): *Check all that apply*

❒African, African American ❒Asian
❒Hispanic ❒Native American
❒White ❒Other

Are/were you a refugee? ❒Yes ❒No **# Years in U.S.** _____

Do you currently use:

❒ SNAP/EBT
❒ Food Bank/pantry assistance *in the last six months*
❒ WIC/Project Fresh
❒ Other federal assistance

SIGN BELOW AFTER READING ATTACHED GUIDELINES AND WAIVER & RELEASE OF LIABILITY

I have read the Garden Project Guidelines and agree to be responsible for my garden plot from spring opening until October 22nd, 2017: _____

2017 Pre-Season Gardener Survey

Completing this survey will help us improve our services and report back to those who provide our funding.

This survey is confidential. All results will be composited and made anonymous before reporting.

How many years have you been gardening? _____

What is your age? ❒ 0-18 ❒ 19-35 ❒ 36-55 ❒ 56-65 ❒ 66+

In my household, I/we…

❒ have enough food to eat

❒ have enough food to eat, but not always enough *fresh fruits and vegetables*

❒ sometimes do not have enough food to eat

❒ often or usually do not have enough food to eat

Why you garden? ***(Check all that apply)*** ❒ grow food for family ❒ grow food for donation

❒ exercise ❒ community/neighborhood engagement ❒ community/neighborhood beautification

❒ mental well-being ❒ just to be outside ❒ Other_____

Do you have resources/talents/skills to offer our greater Garden Project community? If so, please provide us with that info so that we may contact you in the future. Thanks in advance! *(A few examples are: time [we rely heavily on volunteers to staff the Resource Center], compost hauling, grant writing, teaching skills, carpentry, etc.)*

_____

_____

_____

Did you use Garden Project's services last year? ❒ No ❒ Yes **If 'YES', please answer questions below**

Were your grocery bills reduced because you gardened in the previous year? ❒ Yes ❒ No

Did your diet improve because you gardened in the previous year? ❒ Yes ❒ No

GP STAFF ONLY:

DATE PD:_____ AMT PD:_____ FORM PD:_____ STAFF R'CVD PMT:_____

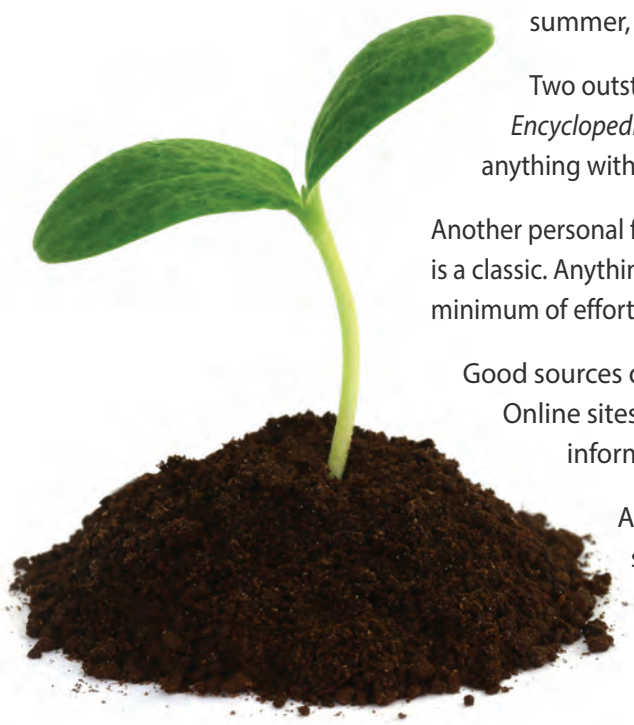
We are reprinting a favorite article of ours; one written five years ago by our dear, former colleague, Brad. We think you will enjoy it as much as we have. Come visit us at the Resource Center this spring to borrow one of the excellent books that he mentions

MORE TO LEARN:

Gardening knowledge is a never-ending pursuit

We're gardeners. The frozen ground is still covered with snow. We've flipped through all the seed catalogs and highlighted what we want. We dream of 80 degree days and 60 degree soil temperatures. What else can we do?

Research. That's what we can do. Learn. Nobody knows everything about anything. If you love it, learn it. And we love it! There are two gardening books I would like to mention. I spend many hours with them in the winter. And in the spring. And the summer, and fall. That's right, I read gardening books. Lots of them.



Two outstanding volumes are *Growing Fruits and Vegetables Organically* and *Encyclopedia of Organic Gardening* (Rodale Press, 1994). I rarely plant or transplant anything without first consulting these books. Any Rodale Press publication is top-notch.

Another personal favorite is *Joy of Gardening* by Dick Raymond (Garden Way Inc., 1982). This is a classic. Anything by Raymond is better than good. He calls himself a lazy gardener. With a minimum of effort, he gets maximum results. That's what I'm talkin' about.

Good sources of information can be found at any library, or support a local bookstore. Online sites and The Garden Project Resource Center are other good places to get information.

All gardeners encounter problems that need to be solved. Weeds, bugs, slugs…who doesn't need answers? This is the time of year to read and ask questions—planting time will be here before your know it.

Contributed by Brad Graham, for the Garden Project

Calendar of Workshops & Events (Please visit **letsgardenlansing.org** for additional information.)

March 18	Grow a Row 3 p.m., Home & Garden Show, MSU Pavilion
April 4	Garden 101 5:30 p.m., Foster Library, Lansing
April 18	Garden 101 6:30 p.m., Webberville Library
April 26	No-till Sod to Garden 6-7:30 p.m., Armory Garden, Lansing
May 9, 10, 11	Container Gardening – 5-6 p.m. 5/9: Summerplace Garden, Lansing 5/10: Resource Center, Lansing 5/11: 838 Louisa St., Lansing
June 21	Summer Solstice Party! (30th-anniversary party) North School Garden
July 19	Annual Community Garden Tour
July 31 – Aug. 5	Grow a Row Week!
Aug. 7	Weeds You Can Eat, part 1 (in the garden), Resource Center
Aug. 8	Weeds You Can Eat, part 2, (in the kitchen), Allen Neighborhood Center
Sept. 16	Perennial Exchange, Resource Center
Sept. 21	End-of-Season Harvest Potluck

A heartfelt thank you to all of our garden leaders, funders, supporters and volunteers! You are appreciated more than you will ever know! If you would like to join us in 2017, please contact us at 517-853-7809 or gardenproject@glfoodbank.org

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P.O. Box 16224 • Lansing, MI 48901

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Phone: 517.853.7809
Fax: 517.853.7817
gardenproject@glfoodbank.org
GreaterLansingFoodBank.org

GROWING HEALTHY FOOD, CULTIVATING CONNECTIONS

2017 Resource Center Hours

APRIL

Wednesdays: 19 & 26 ..... 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Thursdays: 20 & 27 ..... 5 p.m.-7 p.m.

MAY

Tuesdays: 23 & 30 ..... 5 p.m.-7 p.m.
All Wednesdays ..... 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
All Thursdays ..... 5 p.m.-7 p.m.
Saturday, 20 ..... 10 a.m -1 p.m.

What's at the Resource Center?

TOOLS: to borrow—shovels, hoes, rakes & more.

SEEDS: a wide selection to get your garden started. (We have many but not all varieties.)

PLANTS: as available, mostly after Memorial Day.

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES: books, videos, fact sheets & more. Meet knowledgeable volunteers & other gardeners.

Please note: we may limit distribution to ensure fairness.

The Resource Center is located at 2401 Marcus Street –

Corner of Foster and Marcus, one block south of Kalamazoo Street on Lansing's east side.

The Garden Project staff – here to help you!