



GreenThumb's Winter Program Guide 2008

December ♦ January ♦ February



September 6th The workshop attendees at Taqwa Community Farm in the Bronx after they constructed a 3 bin composting system with Eric Thomman of Backyard Garden and Owen Taylor of Just Food.

Look inside for more Fall Program Highlights...

Does your garden need any of the following supplies?

♦♦ Salt, Shovels, Gloves, Garbage Bags, Ice Breakers ♦♦

Also Inside...

Registration Dates & Information
\$5,000 Community Gardens Grant Information
2009 GreenThumb GrowTogether



Please note that garden members must attend workshops in order to receive supplies.

All workshops are rain or shine, cancelled only in the event of lightning or other dangerous conditions. All supplies are first come, first served, while supplies last.



WINTER SUPPLY PICKUP

Salt, Shovels, Gloves, Garbage Bags, Ice Breakers

with GreenThumb Staff

Pick up basic winter supplies for your garden. Only one pickup per garden group is permitted. Please carpool with other garden groups that may not have access to transportation. Call GreenThumb if you need the contact information of gardeners near you.

*The compound gates will not open until 9:45am. Thank you for your patience.

Saturday, DEC 6th 10am-2pm QUEENS

at the GreenThumb Compound

Queens Plaza South at 10th St, under the Queensboro Bridge (see map below).

Directions to the GreenThumb Compound



By Subway

F TRAIN: to 21st St/Queensbridge. Walk south on 21st St towards Queens Plaza South. Make right onto Queens Plaza South. Walk 4 blocks to 10th St. Compound is on your right.

N, W, 7 TRAINS: to Queensboro Plaza/Bridge Plaza. Walk along Queens Plaza South, towards the East River, to 10th St. Compound is on your right.

By Bus

Q19A, Q32, Q60, Q66, Q101, Q101R, Q102 and Q103 all run along or intersect with Queens Plaza South (QPS). Exit closest to 10th St and QPS. Compound is across from 10th St.

By Car

FROM MANHATTAN & THE BRONX: Take FDR to 61st St exit. Follow signs to Queensboro Bridge. Staying in the right-hand lane of the bridge, exit to local streets. Continue straight to end, Northern Blvd/Jackson Avenue intersection. Make a right onto Jackson Ave (Northern Blvd). Make a right onto 21st St and then a left onto Queens Plaza South (QPS). Continue on QPS until 10th St. Compound is on your right, across from 10th St.

FROM BROOKLYN & STATEN ISLAND: Take the BQE to the McGuinness Blvd exit. Make a left onto McGuinness Blvd. Continue straight into Queens (over the Pulaski Skyway Bridge). McGuinness Blvd becomes 11th St. Stay straight on 11th St. Make left onto Queens Plaza South. Go 1 block to 10th St. Compound is on your right.

WINTERIZING YOUR GARDEN

Helpful tips for getting through the cold winter months

ASSESSMENT

Start off by assessing what needs to be done in your garden before winter. Every garden is different depending on what's there. Create a checklist of what needs to be done to organize the work. The following list may help you:

Cleaning up

Pull up all remaining plant material and place it in your compost pile or bint. Be sure to harvest seeds beforehand if you want to save them for next season. If any plants show signs of disease, don't compost them

Pruning

Cut back any foliage that looks diseased on trees and herbaceous perennials. DO NOT cut back good growth.

Weeding

It is important to prevent unwanted plants from becoming established through the winter. Weeding will make things easier for you when you begin seeding and planting in the spring.

Planting

Spring blooming bulbs, such as daffodils or tulips, may be planted up until mid-December or first frost.

Mulching

All broad-leaved perennials should be mulched. Leaves or straw work well to provide root insulation.

Preparing for Snow

Get your sidewalk salt, ice breakers and snow shovels ready, and set up a shoveling schedule that works for your garden. As garden stewards, you are responsible for keeping adjacent sidewalks safe for pedestrians. The WINTER SUPPLY PICKUP is an excellent opportunity to stock up on supplies.

Draining Rainwater Harvesters

If you have a rainwater harvesting system in your garden, you need to drain it to prevent the water inside from freezing, which could damage faucets or pipes.

CITYWIDE MULCHFEST 2009

Chip in! Join us on Saturday, January 10th & Sunday, January 11th, as we mulch Christmas trees and help NYC grow its gardens.

BROOKLYN: Amazing Garden, Hattie Carthan, Green Gems, Brooklyn Bears (Flatbush).

MANHATTAN: El Jardin Paraiso, La Plaza Cultural and Pleasant Village.

BRONX: Jaqueline Denise Davis and Taqwa Community Farm.

For garden locations visit our website -

www.greenthumbnyc.org

For other City Wide locations visit the Parks website -

www.nyc.gov/parks

STATE ANNOUNCES FUNDING TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY GARDENS

Application forms are available for the new State **Community Gardens Capacity Building Grants Program**, aimed to improve access to fresh local produce, help New Yorkers reduce their food budgets, preserve open space, and provide a cleaner, healthier environment.

The grants will **provide up to \$5,000** to existing community gardens and local garden coalitions that serve low-income people in urban areas. The funding is to be used to strengthen local community garden organizations.

For more information, please contact **Christina Mitchell Grace, Manager, Urban Food Systems Program, at 718.722.2834, or christina.grace@agmkt.state.ny.us**

You can also download an application form at:
<http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us/RFPS.html>

GreenThumb Welcomes Our Newest Staff Member



Eric Frey
Outreach Coordinator

Hello gardeners! I'm excited to be a new Outreach Coordinator for GreenThumb. You may have already seen me around - I've been with GreenThumb since March of last year, shortly after moving here from Ann Arbor, MI, working as an office assistant and publications and website manager. As eager as I am to continue working with GreenThumb, I'm most looking forward to getting out of the office and working more closely with you and seeing your beautiful gardens.

Honeybees are garden heroes!

Did you know that bees help your garden grow more fruit and vegetables

AND make sweet honey?

Help us legalize
beekeeping in NYC!

Bee ready!
Sign our petition today.



CONTACT NADIA JOHNSON AT 212.645.9880,
EXT. 237 OR NADIA@JUSTFOOD.ORG, OR GO TO
OUR WEBSITE, WWW.JUSTFOOD.ORG



Save the Date...

The 25th Annual GrowTogether Conference

celebrating the 30th Anniversary of GreenThumb

Saturday, March 21, 2008

Hostos Community College • 149th St & Grand Concourse • Bronx, NY 10451

DECEMBER '08

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JANUARY '09

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 	8	9	10 
11 	12	13	14	15 	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 

FEBRUARY '09

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Our Calendar at a Glance



GreenThumb Workshops



Greening Partners



Registration Session

Winter Supply Pickup

Wednesday, Dec 6th 10am - 2pm

QUEENS

GreenThumb Registration

Wednesday, Jan 7th Noon - 3pm; 6 - 8pm

MANHATTAN

MulchFest - NYC Parks & Rec.

Saturday, Jan 10th 10am - 2pm

CITYWIDE

MulchFest - NYC Parks & Rec.

Sunday, Jan 11th 10am - 2pm

CITYWIDE

GreenThumb Registration

Thursday, Jan 15th 4 - 8pm

MANHATTAN

GreenThumb Registration

Thursday, Jan 22nd Noon - 3pm; 6 - 8pm

BROOKLYN

GreenThumb Registration

Saturday, Jan 31st 10am - 4pm

BROOKLYN

GreenThumb Registration

Saturday, Feb 7th 10am - 4pm

Bronx

Gardens Need to Register for 2009-2011

The time is coming again to register your community garden. The garden settlement requires that community garden groups re-register and sign new licenses with GreenThumb every two years. Only registered garden groups in good standing (not in violation) are eligible to receive GreenThumb services during the season. This includes all workshops and giveaways of plant materials, lumber, soil and tools. We hope many more groups will take advantage of registration this next year.

Sessions are conveniently located at central locations throughout the boroughs, and both daytime and evening sessions will be available. Sessions will cover the full span of GreenThumb services, programs, and requirements. Gardens from all boroughs and jurisdictions can register at any one of the registration sessions. There will be 7 sessions in total: 3 in Manhattan, 3 in Brooklyn, and 1 in the Bronx.

Registration Dates

IN MANHATTAN

Thursday, January 15 4pm - 8pm
Harlem Children's Zone, 35 W 125th St
(between 5th & Lenox Aves)

Wednesday, January 7 Noon - 3pm; 6 - 8pm
Tony Dapolito Rec. Center, Clarkson St at 7th Ave South

IN BROOKLYN

Thursday, January 22 Noon - 3pm
Herbert Von King Cultural Arts Center, 670 Lafayette Ave
(between Marcy & Tompkins)

Thursday, January 22 6pm - 8pm
Herbert Von King Cultural Arts Center, 670 Lafayette Ave
(between Marcy & Tompkins)

Saturday, January 31 10am - 4pm
St. Johns Recreation Center, 1251 Prospect Place
(between Troy & Schenectady Aves)

IN THE BRONX

Saturday, February 7 10am - 4pm
Mulally Comm. Center / SCAN Gymnasium, 40 E 164th St
(between Gerard & River Aves)

What's New?

1. All garden jurisdictions will be addressed at each session. This includes DCAS, DEP, DHS, DPR, DOT, HPD, HRA, JOP, MTA, NYRP, TPL (Land Trust) and Private Gardens.

2. Open Hours have been increased from a minimum of 10 hours per week to 20 hours per week during the growing season (April 1 - October 31).

School Gardens

All School Gardens that have worked with GreenThumb in the last five years will receive special notification about registration via mail. Only registered school gardens will be eligible for the full range of GreenThumb services. GreenThumb is working diligently to produce the *School Gardens Resource Guide* to help teachers, parents and others working with school gardens. We encourage school gardens to take advantage of opportunities to network with area community gardens at registration sessions and subsequently participate in our enriched program of events and workshops.

Gardens in Violation

Please note that garden groups in violation will not be eligible to register. As GreenThumb continues to visit sites and review last year's activities, we will work with garden groups to resolve violations before registration. Violations to GreenThumb rules and regulations include: keeping animals (except in accordance with Department of Health standards), poor maintenance and storage of non-garden related items, consumption of illegal substances, alcohol use, neglecting open hours, prohibiting public access, illegal structures, low membership (fewer than 10) and lack of public programming events. Please contact us if your group needs assistance to alleviate any problems your garden may be facing.

GreenThumb has much in store for registered gardens this season. With the advent of new staff we are able to offer increased assistance with horticulture and site design as well as a range of new workshops and networking opportunities to further develop garden groups.

We appreciate your efforts and hope that all will participate and allow us to help you continue to serve and improve our communities.

If you have any questions pertaining to the upcoming garden registration, or the current status of your garden, please call or email Dyanne Norris at (212) 442-0155 or dyanne.norris@parks.nyc.gov.

SPRING 2009 PROGRAM GUIDE PREVIEW



Edie Stone sizes up one of the gourds at the GreenThumb Harvest Fair at New Vision Garden in East New York. Familiar and new faces came out on a beautiful fall day for a live music, food and crafts. Down the block, the East New York Farmers Market celebrated its tenth year in operation. GreenThumb continues to support their work and wants to extend congratulations once more!

Supplies

Soil, Compost and Cleanfill
Lumber for Raised Beds
Watering Supplies
Vegetable Starts
Pathmark Vouchers

If you have any suggestions or would like to host an event, please call the GreenThumb office at (212) 788-8070.

GreenThumb / City of New York Department of Parks & Recreation
Michael R. Bloomberg, *Mayor*
Adrian Benepe, *Parks Commissioner*
Edie Stone, *Director of GreenThumb*



Phone: 212.788.8070 | Fax: 212.788.8052
Web: www.greenthumbnyc.org | www.nyc.gov/parks

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