GreenThumb’s Spring Program Guide 2008

March • April • May

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Winter Program Highlights (See back panel for more).
Photos by Michelle Burke and Rasheed Hislop.

On Thursday, December 13th, Gerard Lordahl, Director of Open Space Greening Program of CENYC, ran a wreath-making workshop in collaboration with Floral Vineyard. Community gardeners gathered and worked on constructing and decorating holiday wreaths, which they then took home.

Does your garden need any of the following supplies? Look inside for details...

- Cold Frame Kits
- Lumber, Nails, Hammers, Gloves
- Soil Testing Kits
- Common Garden Hibiscus, Climbing Hydrangea, Oakleaf Hydrangea, Peegee Hydrangea, Rhododendron, Dwarf Rhododendron
- Rain Wand Set, Impulse Sprinkler, Shut-off Connector
- Pathmark Vouchers
- Paint, Brushes, Chicken Wire, Vines, Lumber, Nails, Gloves
- Container Roses
- Veggie, Flower, Herb Starts

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.

Spring Supply Pickup

WITH GREENTHUMB STAFF
Pick up basic watering supplies for your garden. One pickup per garden group. 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.

Sat. Apr. 19th 10am-2pm
QUEENS
at the GreenThumb Compound
Queens Plaza South at 10th St.

Rainwater Harvesting Systems
11am-12pm
Learn how to collect rainwater from a shed, shade structure, or nearby roof. Learn what materials are used to build a Rainwater Harvesting System. Get tips on how to build a simple system. GreenThumb registered gardeners who attend this workshop will be placed on a list to be considered as a future Rain Water Harvesting system site.

Soil, Water, Light
Tierra, Agua, Luz
12-1pm
Learn how to improve soil conditions with practical techniques, such as ways to conserve water by using it more efficiently and how to plant your vegetable garden to make the best use of sunlight hours. This workshop is a bilingual English/Spanish workshop. Aprenda como mejorar las condiciones del suelo con tecnicas practicas; tambien como usar el agua mas eficiente para concervarla y la mejor forma de plantar su jardin vegetal de acuerdo a las horas de luz que recibe. Esa program va a estar presentado en espanol y ingles.

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 QPS. Walk 4 blocks to 10th St. Compound is on your right.

N, W, 7 TRAINS: to Queensboro 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, QUEENS & STATEN ISLAND: Take the BQE to the McGuiness Blvd exit. Make a left onto McGuiness Blvd. Continue straight into Queens (over the Pulaski Skyway Bridge). McGuiness 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.
Marching On New Ground

Cold Frame Building

Cold Frame Kits
SOLITA STEPHENS: OLYMPUS GARDEN CLUB
OWEN TAYLOR: JUST FOOD

Come learn how to grow food year round by using a cold frame to extend the growing season. In this workshop we will demonstrate how to put together cold frames from kits and learn about the practical applications of these kits.

Thurs, Mar. 27th 6-7pm BROOKLYN
at the United Community Centers Youth Farm
613 New Lots Ave.
Subway: 3 to Van Siclen. Walk east on Livonia Ave towards Hendrix St. Turn right at Hendrix St, then left at New Lots.
Bus: Take the B15 to New Lots and Schenck Ave or B14 to Barbey Street. Walk two blocks to Blake Ave.

Adaptable Plants and Practices for Gardens

Common Garden Hibiscus, Climbing Hydrangea, Oakleaf Hydrangea, Peegee Hydrangea, Rhododendron, Dwarf Rhododendron

ROBERT JACKSON: BROOKLYN RESCUE MISSION
OWN TAYLOR: JUST FOOD

Learn which plants are best adapted for community garden conditions and the horticultural practices needed to maintain them year round.

Sat, Mar. 29th 10am-12pm BRONX
El Girasol Garden
624-638 East 138th St.
Subway: 6 to Cypress Ave. Walk West on 138th St.
Bus: BX15 to Willis Ave and E 138th St.

The 27th Annual
Making Brooklyn Bloom
Edible NYC: Green it! Grow it! Eat it!
Saturday, March 8, 2008, 10am to 4pm

Building Raised Beds

Lumber, Nails, Hammers, Gloves

ERIC THOMANN: BACKYARD GARDEN

Join us in a conversation about garden planning. When should you plant directly in the ground and when should you plant in a raised bed? Where would you put a raised bed? Why would you put it there? Also practice building a raised bed.

Sat. Apr. 5th 11am-12pm BROOKLYN
at P.S. 53
522 Bradford St between Livonia & Dumont Aves.
Subway: 3 to Van Siclen. Walk west on Livonia and turn right onto Bradford St. Bus: B15 to New Lots and Bradford St.

Know Your Soil Quality/Garden Conditions

Soil Test Kits

ROBERT JACKSON: BROOKLYN RESCUE MISSION
OWN TAYLOR: JUST FOOD

At this workshop you will learn how to use soil pH test kits to test the acidity of your soil, and you will learn how to take soil samples to be tested by CCE or UMASS for toxins, pH, and organic matter.

Tues. Apr. 8th 5:30-7pm MANHATTAN
William A. Harris Garden
Northwest corner of 153rd and St. Nicholas Ave.
Subway: A/B/C/D 145th St, B/D 155th St.
Bus: M3/18 St. Nicholas & 153rd St; M100/101 Amsterdam & 153rd St.

• The Palm House •
1000 Washington Avenue
For more info: www.bbg.org
Community Gardens and the Asian Longhorned Beetle

**Pathmark Vouchers**

DAN PULEO: OFFICER OF THE USDA

How do I properly dispose of infected branched and leaves after tree pruning? Can I accept wood chips from another part of the city? Whom should I call if I suspect an Asian Longhorned Beetle is in my garden? What is used to 'vaccinate' trees against the Asian Longhorned Beetle? Is it safe? Learn the answers to these questions and more with USDA experts.

**Thurs. Apr. 24th 5:30-7pm BROOKLYN**

Clifton Place Memorial Park & Garden
1031-35 Bedford Ave.

Brooklyn Gardeners are invited to join the new

GreenBridge Community Garden Alliance

Registration information will be mailed in late February.

A presentation about this new program and registration assistance will be held at BBG on April 8th, 6-8pm.

For more information, to request a registration packet or to sign-up for the April 8th workshop call 718-623-7264.

GreenBridge is the community environmental horticulture program at Brooklyn Botanic Garden. The GreenBridge hotline is 718-623-7250 and the Brooklyn Compost Project hotline is 718-623-7290.

... May Flowers!

**Water Resource Group's Design Clinic**

**Paint, Brushes, Chicken Wire, Vines, Lumber, Nails, Gloves**

WATER RESOURCE GROUP

Come pickup materials to beautify and highlight your garden's water collection system. This workshop is open to all gardens interested in installing a system or those that have existing systems in place. There will be hands-on demonstrations of different ways to beautify your system, including trellis installation and artwork for tanks and barrels. Please bring ideas and plans to share or any questions you need answered.

**Sat. May 3rd 10am-1pm BRONX**

Model T Garden
1312 Bristow St.
Subway: 2 to Freeman St and Southern Blvd. Walk west on Freeman St. Turn right on Bristow St. Bus: BX15 to 3rd Ave and E 169th St. Turn right onto E 169th St. Turn left onto Union Ave. Turn right onto Freeman St. Turn left onto Bristow St. BX17 to Prospect Ave and E 169th St.

**Coming Up Roses**

**Container Roses**

PETER KUKIELSKI: CURATOR OF THE PEGGY ROCKEFELLER ROSE GARDEN AND ROSE COLLECTIONS, NYBG

Learn the secrets of having beautiful roses in your garden. Find out how to easily and quickly prune and care for these beauties. This workshop offers practical advice on how and where to plant roses as well as which types can grow best in your garden. Have all your questions about roses and rose gardening answered.

**Fri. May 16th 5:30-7pm BRONX**

A. Badillo Community Rose Garden
924 Melrose Ave.
Subway: 5 to 3rd to 149th St. Start out going north on Melrose Ave towards E 150th St. Bus: BX21 to 3 Ave. and E 163 St. Start out going west on E 163rd St. Turn left onto Melrose Ave.
Horticultural Therapy: A Tour of Urban Oasis

**Veggie, Flower, Herb Starts**

SUSAN BRAVERMAN: URBAN OASIS
YONNETTE FLEMMING: HATTIE CARTHAN GARDEN

Since 2002, Kingsboro Psychiatric Hospital's Urban Oasis program has grown vegetable, flower, and herb starts for GreenThumb community gardens. This horticultural therapy program provides GreenThumb gardeners with tasty vegetables while also supporting the growth and well-being of Urban Oasis clients. Come tour the Urban Oasis facility, which includes a commercial greenhouse and an urban agricultural site, and meet some of the growers. After the tour, there will be a cooking demo and hundreds of plant starts will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Parking is available on-site. See directions below for how to get there. The hospital has security precautions in place to protect clients, so please read the special note.

SPECIAL NOTE: Once you arrive, please show the security guard this GreenThumb program guide. Explain that you are here for a GreenThumb workshop, and you will be given a visitor's pass. Once you are through the gate, walk along the road until it ends. Then turn right and follow that road until you reach the greenhouse (it will be on your left). GreenThumb staff will be on hand to help direct you.

**Sat. May 17**

10am-12pm BROOKLYN
Kingsboro Psychiatric Hospital's Urban Oasis
Clarkson Ave between Albany & Utica Aves.

Subway: 2 or 5 to Winthrop St. 3 or 4 to Utica Ave & Eastern Pkwy. Follow bus directions below or walk approximately 12 blocks to Utica & Clarkson. Bus: BK 46 to Clarkson Ave or BK 14 to Utica Ave. Transfer to BK 46.

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What's with That Ugly Tomato?

**Heirloom starts to be distributed:**
Green Glaze Collard Greens, Imperial Black Beauty Eggplant, Dinosaur (Lacinato Blue) Kale, Cal Wonder Bell Pepper, Nardello Pepper, Brandywine Tomato, Garden Sage, Pinwheel Marigolds, and more!

RASHEED HISLOP: GREENTHUMB
YONNETTE FLEMMING: HATTIE CARTHAN GARDEN

Heirloom tomatoes come in all shapes and sizes. They may be small, large, fluted, smooth, bulbous, oblong, pink, purple, yellow, green, black, white, striped, or spotted they and vary as much in taste and texture as they do in appearance. Come to this workshop and learn about the wild world of heirloom vegetables. Find out what they are and why they're important to genetic diversity. A cooking demonstration will follow the discussion. When the workshop is over, vegetable, herb, and flower starts will be distributed on a first come, first served basis.

**Tues. May 20**

5:30-7pm MANHATTAN
Rev. Linnette C. Williamson Memorial Park
52 W. 129th St.

Subway: 2 or 3 to 125th St. Walk north on Malcolm X Blvd/Lenox Ave. Turn right on 129th. Bus: M15L to E 126th St. Walk west on E 126th St. Turn right onto 5th Ave. Proceed on 5th Ave and turn left onto W 129th St. M1 to Madison Ave & E 129th St. and proceed west on E 129th St. M101L to 5th Ave. Walk north on 5th Ave and turn left onto W 129th St.

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**Register Now...**

...For

GreenThumb's

24th Annual GrowTogether Conference

Spring 2008

GO TO WWW.GREENTHUMBNYC.ORG TO DOWNLOAD THE REGISTRATION FORM.
**Our Calendar at a Glance**

### GreenThumb Workshops

- **27th Annual Making Brooklyn Bloom**
  
  *Sat. Mar. 8th 10am-4pm*  
  BROOKLYN

- **GreenThumb’s 24th Annual GrowTogether**
  
  *Sat. Mar. 15th 9am-4pm*  
  BRONX

### Other Greening Group Events

- **Cold Frame Building**
  
  *Thurs. Mar. 27th 6-7pm*  
  BROOKLYN

- **Adaptable Plants and Practices**
  
  *Sat. Mar. 29th 10am-12pm*  
  BRONX

- **Building Raised Beds**
  
  *Sat. Apr. 5th 11am-12pm*  
  BROOKLYN

- **Know Your Soil Quality/Garden Conditions**
  
  *Tues. Apr. 8th 5:30-7pm*  
  MANHATTAN

- **GreenBridge Community Garden Alliance**
  
  *Tues. Apr. 8th 6-8pm*  
  BROOKLYN

- **Schools, Food, and Community**
  
  *Fri. & Sat. Apr. 11th & 12th*  
  MANHATTAN
  [SEE PG. 7]

- **Spring Supply Pickup**
  
  *Sat. Apr. 19th 10am-2pm*  
  QUEENS

- **Rainwater Harvesting Systems**
  
  11am-12pm

- **Soil, Water, Light**
  
  12-1pm

- **Community Gardens and the Asian Longhorned Beetle**
  
  *Thurs. Apr. 24th 5:30-7pm*  
  BROOKLYN

- **Water Resources Group’s Design Clinic**
  
  *Sat. May 3rd 10am-1pm*  
  BRONX

- **Coming Up Roses**
  
  *Fri. May 16th 5:30-7pm*  
  BRONX

- **Horticultural Therapy: Urban Oasis Tour**
  
  *Sat. May 17th 10am-12pm*  
  BROOKLYN

- **Spring It’s My Park! Day**
  
  *Sat. May 17th*  
  ALL BOROS  [SEE PG. 7]

- **What’s with That Ugly Tomato?**
  
  *Tues. May 20th 5:30-7pm*  
  MANHATTAN
This year’s conference will focus on strengthening the resolve of children to eat nutritious, fresh foods:

- By connecting holistic food and nutrition messaging in our classrooms, cafeterias, after-school programs, homes, and neighborhoods.
- By fostering relationships among school children here and elsewhere that focus on food, cooking, and gardening.
- By exploring the nuts and bolts of cross-sector (i.e. health, education, food service, and agriculture) public and private collaborations.
- By promoting government policies that strengthen economic and cultural bonds between local farms and schools, support the development of school gardens, and provide adequate funding for healthy, delicious school lunches for all.

Produced by Baum Forum and the Nutrition Program, Teachers College Columbia University
Healthy & Safe Cooking Demonstrations

January's two part workshop was a prosperous beginning to a nutritious, plant-filled 2008. Linda Ameroso of Cornell University Cooperative Extension led a discussion about the number of fruits and vegetables people eat and their positive effects on overall health and well-being. Gardeners made fresh coleslaw and juicy beet salad. The smiles grew wider as GreenThumb's outreach coordinators gave away Just Food Veggie Tip Sheets filled with amazing recipes that show us how to use both veggies and fruits in a way that is delicious and nutritious. Everyone went home with fresh ideas and fresh leftovers for friends and family.