GreenThumb’s 2010

Spring Program Guide

March • April • May

This past December, gardeners gathered and got into the holiday spirit by making wreaths together. Many kids came along to help craft and partake in hot cider and cookies. The room was filled with evergreen scents and by the end of the workshop all the gardeners hands were sticky with pine sap. Everyone went home happy, with a beautiful holiday decoration and big smiles on their faces, just like the ones pictured here.

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

- **Hyrdant Wrenches, Adapters, Splitters, Hoses, Water Wands**
- **Seed Packets (Veggies, Flowers & Herbs)**
- **Lumber Requests (for Spring delivery)**
- **Fruit Trees**
- **Native Plants**
- **Compost / Soil / Cleanfill (for Spring delivery)**
- **Plant Starts (Veggies, Flowers & Herbs)**

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

All workshops are free and open to the public, with no registration (unless otherwise noted). Workshops are rain or shine, cancelled only in the event of lightning or other dangerous conditions. All supplies are for registered gardens only and are available first come, first served, while supplies last.
For available supplies look for this symbol

March

Hydrant Permits & Water Supplies Giveaway
with GreenThumb Staff

Pick up various water-related supplies for your garden group. Also, for groups who have already registered with DEP for the 2010 season's Hydrant Permit, bring your Hydrant Permit to laminate a copy for the garden. This is good to have in case anybody questions your use of the hydrant. The primary contacts for each garden group should receive a letter from GreenThumb by late February. The letter has instructions on how to obtain the Hydrant Permit from DEP. If you have any questions, please call our office.

Seed Giveaway
with GreenThumb Staff

Pick up vegetable, fruit, flower and herb seeds for registered garden groups. A limit to how many seeds per group will be determined by how many seeds we have.

Recibes semillas de frutas, vegetales, flores y hierbas para su grupo de jardineria.

Seed Packets (Veggies, Flowers & Herbs)

Tuesday, March 30th 9am - 7pm
MANHATTAN
GreenThumb Office
49 Chambers Street, Room 1020 (10th Floor)

Directions
Bus: M22, M15, M6, B51
Train: J, M, Z, 4, 5, 6 to Brooklyn Bridge/City Hall; R, W to City Hall; 1, 2, 3, A, C, E, to Chambers St.

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 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 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.
April

Raised Beds Accessibility
with Greg Anderson, Just Food Trainer, from Walt L. Shamal Community Garden

We will be learning how to elevate raised beds to make them more accessible, especially for those who use wheelchairs to get around. This workshop will be hands on and gardeners will be expected to participate fully in the effort.

Lumber Requests (for Spring delivery)
Saturday, April 10th 11am - 1pm
BROOKLYN
P.S. 53 Garden
522 Bradford Street, between Livonia and Dumont Aves

Directions
Bus: Take the B83 bus to New Lots & Miller Ave. Start out going north on Miller Ave, and then turn left on Livonia Ave. At Bradford St, turn right.
Train: Take the 3 train to Van Siclen Ave. Start out going west on Livonia Ave towards Miller Ave. Turn right onto Bradford St.

Fruit Tree Planting & Giveaway
with Lillian Reyes, GreenThumb

Learn how to correctly plant and care for fruit trees, and take one home to your community garden.

Fruit Trees
Wednesday, April 14th 5 - 6:30pm
MANHATTAN
110th Street Block Association Garden
1651 Madison Avenue at East 110th Street

Directions
Bus: The M1, M2, M3, or M4 bus to the corner of E 110th St & Madison Ave.
Train: Take the 6 train to 110th St Station. Walk west on E 110th St towards Park Ave. Garden at the corner of E 110th St & Madison Ave.

The Full Treatment on Raised Beds
with Greg Anderson, Just Food Trainer, from Walt L. Shamal Community Garden

In this workshop, we will give raised beds the full treatment...covering all aspects of maintaining and rehabilitating raised beds from the lumber to the soil. This will be a great opportunity to come with questions on your own bed. This workshop will also involve hands on participation.

Lumber Requests (for Spring delivery)
Wednesday, April 21st 5 - 6:30pm
MANHATTAN
M’finda Kalunga Community Garden
Rivington Street Crossover, between Chrystie & Forsyth Sts (in Sara D. Roosevelt Park)

Directions
Bus: M15 to E Houston & Chrystie; M103 to Bowery & Rivington.
Train: J, M to Bowery St Station. Walk east on Delancey, turn left onto Chrystie until Rivington St. B, D to Grand St Station. Walk north on Chrystie towards Broome, and turn right at Rivington, into park. Garden entrance will be on your right.

The 29th Annual
Making Brooklyn Bloom
Soil in the City: Growing Healthy Neighborhoods from the Ground Up

Dr. Nina Bassuk (Cornell University) will give the keynote:

Saturday, March 13, 2010
10am to 4pm
The Palm House
1000 Washington Avenue

For more info: visit
www.bbg.org/greenbridge or call (718) 623-7250
Butterfly Project Native Plant Share

*with Sara Katz, Bronx Green-Up, New York Botanical Garden*

Learn the importance of growing native plants that provide habitat and food for pollinators and other wildlife.

**Native Plants**

**Saturday, May 1st 10am - 1pm**

**BRONX**

A. Badillo Community Rose Garden
924 Melrose Avenue at 163rd Street

**Directions**

**Public Transit:** Take the 4 to 161st St station in the Bronx. Transfer to the Bx6 Bus from E 161st St and River Ave station heading to Hunts Point.
Start out going North get off at Melrose Ave then walk towards E 162nd St. The garden is on the corner.

Composting Made Easy

*with Rasheed Hislop*

Come and learn basic outdoor composting best practices and techniques. Learn about the proper maintenance strategies and how to put together a plan for food scrap collection in your garden/neighborhood.

**Soil / Compost / Cleanfill Requests (for Fall delivery)**

**May 4th 5:30 - 7pm**

**BROOKLYN**

Garden of Union (Annie’s Garden)
640 Union Street, between 4th and 5th Avenue

**Directions**

**Bus:** B71 to Union St & 4th Ave. Bus stop is front of garden.
**Train:** M, R train to Union St Station. Walk on Union St, crossing 4th Ave towards 5th Ave. Garden will be on the right.

Plant Starts Giveaway

*with Susan Braverman, Urban Oasis*

Since 2002, GreenThumb has contracted with Kingsboro Psychiatric Hospital’s Urban Oasis program to grow out vegetable starts for distribution to community gardens. This program is a horticultural therapy project that grows tasty vegetables while supporting the growth and well-being of its clients. Thanks to this partnership, GreenThumb is able to distribute organic, non-GMO plants in unique varieties unavailable in your local nursery.

Come tour the facility, including a commercial greenhouse and urban agriculture site. Learn about the Urban Oasis program and meet the growers. After the tour, hundreds of tasty vegetable plants will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. The hospital has special security precautions to protect clients. Please see the special instructions for attending this workshop below. Parking is available on-site, see directions below.

**Plant Starts (Veggies, Flowers & Herbs)**

**Saturday, May 15th 10am - 12pm**

**BROOKLYN**

Kingsboro Psychiatric Hospital’s Urban Oasis
Clarkson Avenue, between Albany & Utica Avenues

**Directions**

**Bus:** B12 to corner of Clarkson & Albany Aves.
**Train:** Take the 2 or 5 to Winthrop St Station. Walk south two blocks to Clarkson Ave, then turn left & walk eight blocks to entrance at E 43rd St.

**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 (on your left). GreenThumb staff will be on hand to help direct you.
Urban Agriculture in 2009

According to a USDA report released this month, 14.6 percent of American families were food insecure at least some time during the year. Prevalence rates of food insecurity and very low food security were the highest recorded since 1995, when the first national food security survey was conducted. In light of these dreary statistics, there is much to be hopeful about.

According to survey data collected as a part of GreenThumb’s 2009 garden registration process, 275 of 311 gardens reported growing food, which is 88.4% of gardens in the city. Although the size of community gardens varies from 2,500 square feet to 3 acres, the majority of gardens surveyed reported that at least 50% of the garden is devoted to food production.

In 2008, GreenThumb worked with The Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) to preserve and develop six medium to large land parcels in Eastern Brooklyn as urban agriculture sites. GreenThumb and non-profit partner groups recruited gardeners, imported soil and constructed raised beds and other amenities including rainwater harvesting systems and shade structures and provided plants and seeds.

As of 2009, all of these sites are actively producing fresh food. Most of the produce is delivered to local soup kitchens and food banks or sold at the farmers market. Members at these new sites grow food for the community, engage youth in hands-on agricultural learning and leadership training, develop economic opportunities for regional farmers, local gardeners, and other small entrepreneurs through a neighborhood farmers' market; preserve community gardens as open space; and educate residents about healthy food and healthy environments.

In collaboration with the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, For a Better Bronx, Bronx Green-Up and other community partners, GreenThumb helped to secure and develop a three acre parcel in the South Bronx into La Finca del Sur, an innovative urban farm, farmers market, children's science program and community-gathering/performance space that opened to the public in 2009. La Finca del Sur is a community-supported urban farmer cooperative that provides the South Bronx community with access to local, affordable farm-fresh organic food, encourage economic empowerment, promote health awareness, and provide environmental education.

As the 2010 growing season approaches, we hope the local efforts underway continue to reverse the food security trends documented by the USDA. We at GreenThumb look forward to growing, innovating and celebrating the work that you as community gardeners and urban farmers do.

Edie Stone, Director of GreenThumb
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MARCH</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APRIL</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAY</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 / 30</td>
<td>24 / 31</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OUR CALENDAR AT A GLANCE**

|  | GreenThumb Workshops & Events |
|  | Greening Partners |

- **29th Annual Making Brooklyn Bloom** (see page 3)
  - Saturday, March 13th
  - 10am - 4pm
  - BROOKLYN

- **26th Annual GreenThumb GrowTogether**
  - Saturday, March 20th
  - 9am - 4pm
  - BRONX

- **Hydrant Permits & Water Supplies Giveaway**
  - Saturday, March 27th
  - 10am - 12pm
  - QUEENS

- **Seed Giveaway**
  - Tuesday, March 30th
  - 9am - 7pm
  - MANHATTAN

- **Raised Beds Accessibility**
  - Saturday, April 10th
  - 11am - 1pm
  - BROOKLYN

- **Fruit Tree Planting & Giveaway**
  - Wednesday, April 14th
  - 5 - 6:30pm
  - MANHATTAN

- **The Full Treatment on Raised Beds**
  - Wednesday, April 21st
  - 5 - 6:30pm
  - MANHATTAN

- **Butterfly Project Native Plant Share**
  - Saturday, May 1st
  - 10am - 1pm
  - BRONX

- **Compost Workshop**
  - Tuesday, May 4th
  - 5:30 - 7pm
  - BROOKLYN

- **Plant Starts Giveaway**
  - Saturday, May 15th
  - 10am - 12pm
  - BROOKLYN

- **Plant Starts Giveaway, Part II**
  - Saturday, May 22nd
  - 10am - 12pm
  - BRONX

**The events calendar is also online!**

All of these events and more are also listed on GreenThumb’s online events calendar
http://greenthumbnyc.org/gardenevents.html

If your garden group is having an event and would like it on the events calendar, let us know!
Do you want to sell your vegetables at a farmers’ market?
¿Quiere vender sus vegetales en un mercado de los granjeros?

· Earn money!
· Share your vegetables with your neighbors!
Call Jane for details about starting or joining markets:
(212)645-9880 x228, jane@justfood.org

Do you want to keep chickens in your garden?
¿Quiere criar gallinas en su jardín?

· Chickens lay delicious eggs!
· Chickens eat pests and weeds while fertilizing and aerating your soil!
Call Owen for details:
(212)645-9880 x229, owen@justfood.org

Do you want to learn more about growing food?
¿Quiere aprender más sobre cultivando comida?

· Attend a City Farms workshop!
· For a listing of this year’s topics, contact:
Owen Taylor at (212)645-9880 x229, owen@justfood.org
Or visit: www.justfood.org/city FARMS/CITY FARMS WORKSHOPS

Grants for COMMUNITY BUILDING PROJECTS!

Have a great idea for a community improvement project?

Apply for a New Yorkers for Better Neighborhoods Award!

Citizens Committee for New York City awards grants of $500 to $3,000 to volunteer-led groups to work on projects that bring neighbors together and that have positive community impacts.

Grant deadlines are March 14 & September 30.

For more information, visit www.citizensnyc.org/grants or contact Arif Ullah at (212) 822-9580.
In 2009, we had 48 workshops giving away over 50 types of supplies, and with more than 3,050 attendees.

Do you have any suggestions for a new workshop or supply giveaway?

Would your garden like to host an event or workshop?

Do you want to lead a workshop?

Let us know! We’re always looking ahead for new programming.
Call our main office at (212) 788-8070

Sowing Hope
Sembrando Esperanza

26th Annual
GreenThumb
GrowTogether Conference

Saturday, March 20th
9AM-4PM

HOSTOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
149th St & the Grand Concourse
Bronx, New York 10451