Fall Program Highlights (See back panel for more. Photos by Lillian Reyes.)

On Sunday, October 28\textsuperscript{th} community organizations in the Bronx sponsored a bike tour of 10 community gardens. The public was invited to join in on the fun by riding through the neighborhood and stopping along the way to learn about the benefits of green garden spaces. Thanks to all the organizations that worked together to make the tour happen. Pictured above are representatives from many of those groups as well as local participants.

On Saturday, October 20\textsuperscript{th} the Red Hook youth farm, Added Value, held their annual Harvest Fair festival. On that beautiful autumn day over 23,000 people came out to enjoy the festivities, including kids trying their hand at pumpkin carving. There were several live bands, performers, food vendors, workshops, and, of course, participants buying farm fresh produce at the Added Value farmers’ market.

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

- Sidewalk Salt, Snow Shovel, Ice Breaker, Garbage Bags and Gloves
- Pruning Shears, 6” Wreath Ring, Wire, Pine Cones and Ribbon
- The Just Food Veggie Tip Sheet
- WD-40, Naval Jelly, Silicone Spray, Rubbing Alcohol 70%, Wire Tool Brush, Steel Wool, Linseed Oil and Blade Sharpener
- Seeds and Seed Starting Supplies
- Compost, Soil or Cleanfill for Spring Delivery
- Vermicomposting Bins and Worms

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

Sidewalk Salt, Snow Shovel, Ice Breaker, Garbage Bags and Gloves

With Greenthumb Staff
Pick up basic winter maintenance 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 names of gardens near you.

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

Sat. Dec 8th 10am-2pm QUEENS at the Greenthumb Compound
Queens Plaza South at 10th St. See map below.

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 Train

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 Plaza/Bridge Plaza. Walk along Queens Plaza South, towards the East River, to 10th St. Compound is on your right.

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.
Winter Wreath Making
Pruning Shears, 6" Wreath Ring, Wire, Pine Cones and Ribbon
GERARD LORDAHL, DIRECTOR-OPEN SPACE GREENING PROGRAM, CENYC
Learn how to create your own natural holiday wreath using spool wire, a metal ring and fresh scented outdoor greens for decorating indoors or outdoors during the holidays. Wreath making can also be taught as a community garden activity or as a garden fundraising event. All greens, wire and pruning shears will be provided along with natural pine cones and a ribbon to decorate your own handmade, festive wreath. Bring your favorite decorations to add.

Thurs. Dec 13th 5:30-7pm BROOKLYN at the Floral Vineyard
2379-2385 Pitkin Ave between Cleveland & Ashford Sts.
Subway: C train to Shepherd Ave. Exit near intersection of Pitkin Ave and Shepherd Ave. Walk west on Pitkin Ave towards Essex St. Walk 4 more blocks to Cleveland. The garden is between Cleveland and Ashford. Bus: B12 or B14.

Healthy & Safe Cooking Series, Part 1: Safe Food Cooking Demonstrations
The Just Food Veggie Tip Sheet
LINDA AMEROSO AND ERIKA ICHINOSE, CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
Introduce your neighbors to fabulous, fresh, locally grown produce through hot and cold cooking, tasting using food-safe methods and simple healthy recipes. Safe food tasting is a great addition to farm market stands, CSA’s, fairs or other community garden activities.

Tues. Jan 8th 5:30-7pm MANHATTAN
Call to pre-register for location details

PRE-REG. DETAILS: This is a two-part workshop series. To receive the Just Food Veggie Tip Sheet, you must attend both workshops. Space is limited -- you must pre-register to attend these workshops. To pre-register, please contact Bilen Berhanu at 212-442-8961 or bilen.berhanu@parks.nyc.gov.

Maintaining Your Garden Tools-Como Mantener sus Herramientas de Jardineria
WD-40, Naval Jelly, Silicone Spray, Rubbing Alcohol 70%, Wire Tool Brush, Steel Wool, Linseed Oil and Blade Sharpener
LUIS LEMUS, BRONX GREEN-UP SENIOR COMMUNITY HORTICULTURIST, NYBG
Learn how to maintain your garden tools and extend their use to make them more effective. Learn how to sharpen your hand pruners and your other gardening tools. This is a bilingual English/Spanish workshop.

Fri. Jan 11th 11am-2pm MANHATTAN at Tony Dapolito Recreation Center, 3rd Floor
7th Ave South & Clarkson Street
Subway: 1 to Houston St. Walk one block north to Clarkson; A, E, D, F trains to W 4th St. Walk West to 7th Ave. and then South to Clarkson. Bus: The M21 runs along Houston St. Clarkson is one block north of Houston. The M20 runs down 7th Ave.

Fri. Jan 18th 11am-2pm BRONX at The New York Botanical Garden
Watson Building, Bronx River Pkwy at Fordham Rd. Please enter via the gate on Kazimiroff Blvd. between Mosholu Pkwy. & Bedford Park Blvd.
Subway: D or 4 trains to Bedford Park Blvd. Walk southeast on Bedford to NYBG. Bus: The Bx12, Bx19, Bx26, and Bx41 buses stop near the NYBG entrance.

As we put our garden beds to rest for the season, GreenThumb remembers all our beloved gardeners lost in 2007. May they rest in peace.
Healthy & Safe Cooking Series, Part 2: Four “S”s

Cooking Techniques

The Just Food Veggie Tip Sheet

LINDA AMEROSO AND ERIKA ICHINOSE, CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Families will eat more locally grown fruits and vegetables if they know how to cook them. The 4S’s cooking techniques workshop features slaws, salads, stir-fry and stews as methods to help families eat more of the seasonal fruits and vegetables available at markets or from their gardens. Other farmers’ market recipe favorites will also be featured.

Thurs. Jan 17th 5:30-7pm MANHATTAN

Call to pre-register for location details

PRE-REG. DETAILS: This is a two-part workshop series. To receive the Just Food Veggie Tip Sheet, you must attend both classes. Space is limited -- you must pre-register to attend these workshops. To pre-register, please contact Bilen Berhanu at 212-442-8961 or bilen.berhanu@parks.nyc.gov.

Indoor Seed Starting — Comenzando sus Semillas

Seeds and Seed Starting Supplies

SOLITA STEPHENS, OLYMPUS GARDEN CLUB/JUST FOOD TRAINER

Learn the basics of seed starting -- When should I start seeds indoors? Which seeds should I start indoors? What do they need to thrive indoors? Pick up fruit, vegetable, flower and herb seeds for your garden group. This is a bilingual English/Spanish workshop.

Aprende lo básico de empezar semillas -- Cuando debería empezar semillas, y cuales semillas debería empezar? Que necesitan las semillas para sobrevivir adentro de casa? Recibes semillas de frutas, vegetales, flores y hierbas para su grupo de jardineria. Esa programa va a estar presentado en español y inglés.

Mon. Feb 4th 5:30-7pm BRONX

at The Red Roots Loft Space

49 Chambers Street, Room 1020, between Broadway and Centre Streets. Please bring ID to enter the building.

Subway: J, M, Z, 4, 5, 6 to Brooklyn Bridge/City Hall; R, W to City Hall; 1, 2, 3, A, C, E to Chambers Street.

Bus: M22, M15, M1, M6, B51

GreenThumb’s 24th Annual GrowTogether Conference

Hostos Community College
149th St. and the Grand Concourse
Bronx, NY 10451

Saturday, March 15th, 2008
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Crazy for Composting with Pre-Valentine’s Day Treats
Order Compost, Soil or Cleanfill for Spring Delivery

JODIE COLON, COMPOST EDUCATOR, NYBG
A compost clinic for those who are passionate about composting and would like to improve yields of sweet soil amendments or improve bins or piles. This Q & A session will provide you with the practical tips, advice and encouragement you need to take it to the next level, whether you are new to composting or have been digging in for years.

*Pre-registration recommended. Please call the Rotline at 718-817-8543 to pre-register.

Wed, Feb 13th 6:30-8:30pm BRONX at The New York Botanical Garden
Watson Building Rm 102, Bronx River Pkwy at Fordham Rd. Please enter via the gate on Kazimiroff Blvd. between Mosholu Pkwy & Bedford Park Blvd.
Subway: D or 4 trains to Bedford Park Blvd. Walk southeast on Bedford to NYBG. Bus: Bx26, and Bx41 buses stop near the NYBG entrance.

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Composting Indoors with Worms

Vermicomposting Bins and Worms (while supplies last). Order Compost, Soil or Cleanfill for Spring Delivery

SOLITA STEPHENS, OLYMPUS GARDEN CLUB/JUST FOOD TRAINER
Learn the basics of indoor composting of fruit and vegetable trimmings with Red Wiggler worms. Generate compost while reducing waste. Take home a free vermicompost bin and worms for your classroom, apartment or house.

Thurs. Feb 21th 5:30-7pm MANHATTAN at Bluestockings Bookstore
172 Allen St between Stanton & and Rivington Sts.

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2007 GrowTogether T-Shirt Design Winner!
Nancy Moore
Highland Park Children’s Garden

Send Us Your Design Ideas for 2008!

It’s almost time for the 2008 GreenThumb GrowTogether. We plan to start the new growing season with a bang! Our new theme is “Gaining Ground” “Ganando Terreno”.

Every year, GreenThumb challenges the greening community to interpret our theme with a creative t-shirt design. The winning design is picked from entries from all over the city and from gardeners of all ages.

Please submit black and white images only. We like to know which garden you are affiliated with, so make a note on your entry, along with your name, address and telephone number.

Applicants may send in multiple entries. Send your designs to:
GreenThumb
Attn: GTGT T-Shirt Design
49 Chambers Street
Room 1020
New York, NY, 10007
Good Food Now! A Just Food Summit
Sat. Dec 1
8:45am-6pm MANHATTAN
(see below for more)

Winter Supply Pickup
Sat. Dec 8
10am-2pm QUEENS

Winter Wreath Making
Thurs. Dec 13
5:30-7pm BROOKLYN

Healthy & Safe Cooking Series, Part I
Tues. Jan 8
5:30-7pm MANHATTAN

Healthy & Safe Cooking Series, Part II
Thurs. Jan 17
5:30-7pm MANHATTAN

Maintaining Your Garden Tools
Como Mantener sus Herramientas de Jardinería.
Fri. Jan 11
11am-2pm MANHATTAN
Fri. Jan 18
11am-2pm BRONX

Indoor Seed Starting
Comensando sus Semillas Adentro
Mon. Feb. 4
5:30-7pm BRONX

Seed Pickup at the GreenThumb Office
Thurs. Feb 7
10am-12noon & 5-7pm MANHATTAN

Crazy for Composting with Valentine Treats
Wed. Feb 13
6:30-8:30pm BRONX

Composting Indoors with Worms
Thurs. Feb 21
5:30-7pm MANHATTAN

Good Food Now!
Just Food’s Summit on Food, Farms and Community Health
December 1st 2007, 8:45am-6pm at the New School. Tickets start at $50.

Visit www.justfood.org for the details or to register.
Greetings fellow gardeners!

I am a Brooklyn native and I am excited to be on board to help serve you and your garden sites. I just finished college, during which I worked on two farms and assisted in organizing a few gardens in Oberlin, Ohio, where my alma mater is located. I love plants, and I have a keen interest in sustainable agriculture and wise ways of growing food. I hope to learn a great deal in my new position and to do all I can to support you and your garden spaces as best I can. I look forward to meeting many of you in your gardens and around the city in the future and offering my assistance wherever it is needed.

As a recent transplant to New York City, I’m delighted to be welcomed so heartily into the GreenThumb community. I’m slowly learning my way around the city as I visit gardens in Brooklyn, the Bronx, and Manhattan, and I look forward to meeting more gardeners face-to-face. I spent the summer working at a small, family farm in upstate New York and completed my MFA in creative writing at Ohio State University in the spring of 2007. I’m interested in sustainable agriculture, environmental education, and poetry. As a writer and a gardener, I look forward to hearing your stories, and I hope to share some of my own with you.

Michelle Burke,
Citywide Outreach Coordinator

Lee "Rasheed" Hislop
Citywide Outreach Coordinator

GreenThumb Welcomes Our New Staff Members

Winterizing Your Garden:
Helpful Tips for Making It through the Cold

ASSESSMENT: Start off by assessing what needs to be done in your garden in order to close up until spring. Every garden is different depending upon what’s there. Create a checklist of what needs to be done. The following list may help you:

1. Clean up: Pull up all remaining plant material and place it in your compost. 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. Throw them in the trash. Also, rake fallen leaves into piles. You can compost them or save them to use as mulch.

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

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

4. Plant: Spring blooming bulbs such as daffodils or tulips may be planted up until mid-December.

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

6. Prepare for Snow: Get your sidewalk salt, ice breakers and snow shovels ready and set up a shoveling schedule. 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. See page 1 in this guide.

7. Drain Rainwater Harvesters: If you have a rainwater harvester in your garden, you need to drain it to prevent the water inside from freezing, which could then damage faucets or pipes.
Compost Bench Building Workshop

The Compost Bench Building workshop held in the fall this year was a great success. More than 30 gardeners learned how to build a bench with skilled carpenter Gary Baum of City Beautiful Carpentry. Pre-registered gardens who attended the workshop also picked up their bench making kits with everything they needed to make the bench in their gardens. If you missed the workshop, you can still visit our website to learn about the techniques, materials, tips and tricks you’ll need to build your own bench.

Visit www.greenthumbnyc.org/resources.html.