GreenThumb’s first-ever Fresh Chef contest was a great success at this year’s annual Harvest Fair. Congratulations to all the winners and those who participated. Photo by Phillip Kester | GreenThumb

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

Gloves • Ice Breakers • Salt (Calcium Chloride) • GreenThumb Handbook • Wreath Making Supplies • Garden Books
Soil • Compost Mulch and Lumber Requests (for Spring Delivery)

Please note that garden members must attend workshops to receive supplies. All workshops are free and open to the public, with no pre-registration (unless otherwise noted). Workshops are rain or shine, canceled 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.

WWW.GREENTHUMBNYC.ORG
### DECEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td></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>

### JANUARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</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>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### FEBRUARY

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

---

**EVENT CALENDAR**

- **GreenThumb Workshops & Events**
- **Greening Partners**

**Winter Supply Giveaway**
- Saturday, December 5th  10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- QUEENS

**Wreath Making**
- Wednesday, December 9th  6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- MANHATTAN
- Saturday, December 12th  11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- BRONX

**Raised Bed Design**
- Thursday, December 10th  5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- BROOKLYN
- Thursday, February 18th  5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- BROOKLYN

**Fundraising for Garden Groups**
- Tuesday, December 8th  6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- BRONX
- Tuesday, December 15th  6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- MANHATTAN
- Thursday, January 14th  6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- STATEN ISLAND
- Wednesday, January 27th  6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- QUEENS

**Composting Leaves in the Garden**
- Wednesday, December 16th  5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- BRONX

**Soil Health**
- Thursday, December 17th  5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- QUEENS

**Bookkeeping & Accounting**
- Thursday, January 7th  5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- BROOKLYN

**Mulchfest**
- Saturday-Sunday, January 9th-10th  10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- CITYWIDE

**Trap-Neuter-Return Certification**
- Saturday, January 16th  11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- MANHATTAN

**Group Structure & By-Laws**
- Wednesday, January 20th  5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- BROOKLYN

**Crazy for Composting**
- Saturday, February 13th  10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- BRONX

**Maintaining Your Garden Tools**
- Saturday, February 20th  10:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m.
- QUEENS

**Conflict Resolution**
- Wednesday, February 24th  5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- MANHATTAN

**Fruit Tree Pruning**
- Saturday, February 27th  11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
- BRONX
GrowTogether T-shirt Design Contest

This year’s theme is: **Concrete Jungle to Garden Oasis**

So pick up a pen, crayon, pencil or whatever you use to draw, and submit your artwork to the GrowTogether T-shirt contest! The winning design will appear on the 2016 GrowTogether T-shirts, worn by hundreds of gardeners all over the city. Any GreenThumb gardener is welcome to enter. Applicants may send in up to 3 entries.

The deadline for entry is:
Wednesday, December 9, 2015

Rules:
• Artwork must relate to the contest theme
• Designs must be in black and white only
• Artwork must be signed
• Entries must include name, address, garden affiliation and phone number
• Any size paper is acceptable
• If you’re a minor, please include your age on the entry

Please send your entries to:
Attn: GreenThumb T-shirt Design Contest
Arsenal
830 5th Avenue
New York, New York 10065
Or email: greenthumbinfo@parks.nyc.gov

---

Winter Supply Giveaway

GreenThumb Staff

Pick up basic gardening and maintenance supplies for your garden. One pickup per garden group. Only gardens and farms in good standing are eligible to receive supplies and other gardening tools. Gardeners picking up for others must notify GreenThumb. The compound gates will open at 10:00 a.m. Please carpool with other garden groups that may not have access to transportation. Remember to keep your garden sidewalks, walkways and curbs inside and adjacent to the garden clean and free of snow, ice, garbage and plant debris.

**Saturday, December 5th | 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**
QUEENS
GreenThumb Compound (Long Island City)
Queens Plaza South and 10th Street
**Train:** 7/Q/N to Queensboro Plaza, E/R/M to Queens Plaza
**Bus:** Q32 to 28th Street, B62 or Q39 to Queens Plaza South, B32 to 45th Avenue

---

Picking Up Supplies for Other Garden Groups

When attending a GreenThumb giveaway, you are only eligible to pick up materials for your garden group, unless arrangements are made with the office. Without prior notice, GreenThumb cannot provide materials to garden members who are there to pick up for other groups.
**Wreath Making**

*GreenThumb Staff*

Learn how to create your own natural holiday wreath for indoors or outdoors. All supplies will be provided along with natural pine cones and ribbon to decorate your own handmade, festive wreath. Bring your favorite decorations to add as well. Attendees are strongly encouraged to bring along kids and family members. Wreath making can be a great community garden activity or garden fundraising event. Please RSVP by calling 718.817.8026.

**Wednesday, December 9th | 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

**MANHATTAN**

The Arsenal Gallery, Central Park
850 5th Avenue
**Train:** 4/5/6 to Lexington Av/59th, N/Q/R to 5th Av/59th St.
**Bus:** M1/M2/M3 to E 67 St, M1/M3/M4 to E 63 St.

**Saturday, December 12th | 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**BRONX**

The New York Botanical Garden
Harding Lab Room 110
2900 Southern Blvd.

Enter via the Moshulu Gate, across the street from Metro North Botanical Garden station
Bx 26 or walk 8 blocks from the B, D or 4 Bedford Park Boulevard stations

---

**Raised Bed Design**

*GreenThumb Staff*

Learn how to create a 2 tier triangle raised bed using the same supplies given by GT. These beds are smaller & primarily used in gardens where space is limited.

**Thursday, December 10th | 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

**BROOKLYN**

United Community Center, 613 New Lots Ave.
**Train:** 3 to New Lots Av, C to Van Siclen Ave.
**Bus:** B6 to Livonia Av/Ashford St, B83 to New Lots Ave./Miller Ave.

**Thursday, February 18th | 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

**BROOKLYN**

Brownsville Recreation Center, 1555 Linden Blvd.
**Train:** L to New Lots Ave.

---

**Fundraising for Garden Groups**

*Partnerships for Parks & GreenThumb Staff*

Partnerships for Parks invites GreenThumb gardeners to this Partnership Academy workshop to learn how to put together a fundraising plan. Attendees will have the opportunity to network, hear from industry professionals, learn best fundraising practices from other community groups, hear about grants, learn 10 fundraising techniques and when to use them, and the basics of budgeting. Please call 212-602-5349 to register.

**Tuesday, December 8th | 6:30 p.m. 8:30 p.m.**

**BRONX**

Bronx Parks Department Headquarters
1 Bronx River Pkwy
**Train:** 5 to Bronx Park East.
**Bus:** BxM10 to Morris PK Av/White Plains Rd.

**Tuesday, December 15th | 6:30 p.m. 8:30 p.m.**

**MANHATTAN**

The Arsenal Gallery, Central Park
830 5th Ave.
**Train:** 4/5/6 to Lexington Ave., N/Q/R to 5th Ave.
**Bus:** M1/M2/M3 to E 67 St, M1/M3/M4 to E 63 St.

**Thursday, January 14th | 6:30 p.m. 8:30 p.m.**

**STATEN ISLAND**

Blue Heron Nature Center
222 Poillon Ave.
**Bus:** S78 to Hylan Blvd/Poillon Ave.

**Wednesday, January 27th | 6:30 p.m. 8:30 p.m.**

**QUEENS**

The Overlook, Conference Room, First Floor
80-30 Park Lane
**Train:** E/F to Kew Gardens - Union Tpke.
**Bus:** Q60 to Queens Blvd./Union Tpke.

---

**SAVE THE DATE!**

32nd Annual GreenThumb GrowTogether Conference
Saturday, March 19, 2016
Composting Leaves in the Garden

GreenThumb Staff

Composting leaves is a terrific way to recycle and create a nutrient rich garden soil amendment at the same time. The benefits of leaf compost are numerous. The compost increases the porosity of the soil, raises the fertility, diminishes the strain on landfills and creates a living “blanket” over your plants.

Wednesday, December 16th | 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
BRONX
El Coqui Community Garden, 924 Melrose Ave.
Train: 5 / 2 to 149th 3rd Avenue or D to 161st St.

Soil Health

GreenThumb Staff

Want to learn how to keep your plants growing strong this season? Plant health is usually directly linked to the health of the soil it grows in. We will cover soil health basics, including different ways of checking to see how your soil is doing. We will also cover ways you can amend or prepare your soil in order to improve its health.

Thursday, December 17th | 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
QUEENS
GreenThumb Compound (Long Island City)
Queens Plaza South and 10th Street
Train: 7/Q/N to Queensboro Plaza, E/R/M to Queens Plaza
Bus: Q32 to 28th St., B62 or Q39 to Queens Plaza South, B32 to 45th Ave.

Bookkeeping & Accounting

GreenThumb Staff

Learn how to effectively keep track of your community garden expenses. This workshop is an introduction to basic bookkeeping tools and systems to manage garden finances, including receipt organization, and sticking to a budget. In partnership with Pamela Capalad from Brunch & Budget.

Thursday, January 7th | 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
BROOKLYN
Brooklyn Public Library, Room 216
10 Grand Army Plaza
Train: Q/B to 7th Ave, 2/3 to Grand Army Plaza.
Bus: B41 to Flatbush Ave./Grand Army Plaza.

Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Certification

ASPCA and GreenThumb Staff

Learn the basics of Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) and colony care in this hands-on workshop and become a Certified TNR Caretaker. Attending a TNR certification workshop is the first step to gain the knowledge and skills needed to help the feral and stray community cats in your gardens. Upon completion of the workshop, you will become a Certified TNR Caretaker and be eligible for free or low-cost spay/neuter, trap loans, transportation for cats and traps, educational and networking events, newsletters, community outreach materials, and other services and support within the five boroughs of New York City provided by the NYC Feral Cat Initiative of the Mayor’s Alliance for NYC’s Animals, the ASPCA, and other area organizations.

Saturday, January 16th | 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
MANHATTAN
Jackie Robinson Recreation Center
85 Bradhurst Avenue
Train: A, B, C, D to 145 St.
Bus: M10 to Frederick Douglass Blvd/W. 147th St.
Group Structure & By-Laws

GreenThumb Staff

Is your garden group in need of structure and more organization? This workshop will help you to hone the fundamentals of group structure. Learn the basics of by-laws and how to write them so that your garden group has a guide to working together effectively. While all registered GreenThumb gardens must follow the GreenThumb rules, the by-laws serve as a reference for situations in which there is confusion about how the organization runs. This workshop will help you work in issues of membership and conflict into your group structure.

Wednesday, January 20th | 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
BROOKLYN
United Community Center
613 New Lots Avenue
Train: 3 to New Lots Ave., C to Van Siclen Ave.
Bus: B6 to Livonia Ave./Ashford St, B83 to New Lots Ave./Miller Ave.

Crazy for Composting

NYBG & GreenThumb Staff

Are you passionate about composting but want more from your bin? These Q&A sessions provide the practical tips, advice and encouragement you need to take composting to the next level, whether you are just starting out (Session 1) or have been digging in for years (Session 2). Registered GreenThumb community gardens will be able to request an order of compost, soil, or clean fill for spring delivery. Registration required; e-mail compost@nybg.org or call 718.817.8543 to register session. In partnership with New York Botanical Garden.

Saturday, February 13th
Session I 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Session II 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
BRONX
New York Botanical Garden
2900 Southern Blvd
Enter via the Mosholu Gate, across the street from Metro-North Botanical Garden station Bx26 or walk 8 blocks from the B, D or 4 Bedford Park Boulevard stations

Conflict Resolution

Just Food and GreenThumb Staff

Join fellow GreenThumb gardeners for an evening to come together and find solutions to issues that commonly arise between community gardeners. In this interactive and engaging workshop we will talk about underlying issues to common garden conflicts, walk through real-life scenarios, find solutions, and learn how to harness everyone’s unique talent to help gardens thrive for years to come. In partnership with Just Food.

Wednesday, February 24th | 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
MANHATTAN
Alfred E Smith Recreation Center
80 Catherine Street
Train: 4/5/6 to Brooklyn Bridge/City Hall, F to East Broadway.
Bus: M103 to Park Row/Worth St, M15-SBS to Madison St/Catherine St.

As we put our garden beds to rest for the season, GreenThumb remembers all our beloved gardeners lost in 2015. May they rest in peace.

Treecycle!

Take your tree to MulchFest 2016!

Saturday & Sunday
January 9 & 10
10am to 2pm

For more information and additional locations, visit www.nyc.gov and search for “MulchFest” or call 311.
**Fruit Tree Pruning**

*GreenThumb Staff*

Learn why fruit trees need annual pruning for best production. Discover and practice how to prune the different types of fruit trees. We will prune at the ideal time of year, in late winter.

**Saturday, February 27th | 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

**BRONX**

Drew Gardens
East Tremont Avenue
**Train:** 2 or 5 train to West Farms Square
**Bus:** Q44

---

**Maintaining Your Garden Tools**

*GreenThumb Staff*

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.

**Saturday, February 20th | 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**QUEENS**

GreenThumb Compound (Long Island City)
Queens Plaza South and 10th Street
**Train:** 7/Q/N to Queensboro Plaza, E/R/M to Queens Plaza
**Bus:** Q32 to 28th Street, B62 or Q39 to Queens Plaza South, B32 to 45th Avenue

---

**Como Mantener sus Herramientas de Jardinería**

*Personal de GreenThumb*

Aprenda a mantener sus herramientas de jardín y extender su uso para hacerlos más eficaces. Aprenderán a afilar tus tijeras y otras herramientas de jardinería. Este taller será presentado en Inglés y Español.

**Sábado, 20 de Febrero | 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**QUEENS**

En el Campamento de GreenThumb en (Long Island City) Queens Plaza Sur y la calle 10
**Tren:** 7/Q/N hasta Queensboro Plaza, Tren: E/R/M hasta Queens Plaza
**Autobús:** Q32 hasta la calle 28th, B62 o Q39 hasta Queens Plaza Sur, B32 hasta la 45 Avenida

---

**NY Botanical Garden**

**Grow More Vegetables Certificate Series with Bronx Green-Up/New York Botanical Garden**

The Grow More Vegetables Certificate Series is an edible gardening course designed to equip community gardeners, teachers, and city residents with the best organic techniques for growing vegetables safely and effectively, particularly in an urban setting. The program consists of six evening classes in the classroom and additional hands-on gardening instruction in the field. Each student will have the opportunity to design his or her own urban vegetable gardening project as a final component of the course. The projects are open-ended with two main goals: to grow more food and to pass on what will have been learned to an identified group in your community. For an application or for more information, call 718.817.8026 or e-mail bronxgreenup@nybg.org. Preference for the class will be given to Bronx residents; others are welcome as space allows.

This series takes place in February and March 2016.

---

**GreenThumb Youth Leadership Council 2016**

The GreenThumb Youth Leadership Council is an opportunity for 150 high school aged youth and 20 college students to volunteer at a community garden in New York City. High school aged youth will have the opportunity to learn firsthand from community gardeners, how to maintain and grow a healthy garden. College students will have the opportunity to take a volunteer management training course with gardeners and work alongside high school aged youth across the five boroughs. Both high school and college youths will learn about all that goes into a garden, including botany, agriculture, horticulture and composting.

**College Application Deadline: December 4th**

**High School Application Deadline: April 1st**

Feel free to email matthew.melore@parks.nyc.gov with any questions or concerns about the application.
Be Greener!

Sign up to get the GreenThumb Program Guide by email instead of postal mail and you’ll save trees AND get it up to a month sooner!

There are more than 5 million square feet of community garden space in the five boroughs.