15th Annual Domino Tournament at El Flamboyan Community Garden. Trophy Winners Gloria, Ramonita, Jose, Rafael, Juan and David. Special Thanks to Our Little Helpers Brittany, Sachelle, Skye & Joseph. Our Special Recognition Award went out to: Diego Pantoja of LRP Thanks for your continuing support of GreenThumb.

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

- Salt • Ice Breakers • Garbage Bags • Gloves • Shovels • Bagged Compost • CSA in the City Tool Kit • Compost / Soil / Cleanfill / Mulch Request (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, 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.
Winter Supply Giveaway
GreenThumb Staff

Pick up basic gardening & maintenance supplies for your garden. One pickup per garden group. GreenThumb gardens that have attended a composting workshop and are in good standing with GreenThumb can receive bagged DSNY compost and bagged DSNY mulch. This program is a new partnership between GreenThumb and the NYC Department of Sanitation’s Bureau of Waste Prevention, Reuse and Recycling (BWPRR). Each bag of DSNY compost weighs approximately 35-40 lbs and each bag of DSNY mulch weighs approximately 40 lbs. Eligible gardens can retrieve up to 41 bags of compost per garden and up to 35 bags of mulch per garden.
For more info, visit http://greenthumbnyc.org/ or call 212-442-8952 for specific or more details.

Supplies: 50 lb. bags of Calcium Chloride Pellets (salt), Garbage Bags, Gloves, Ice Breakers, Shovels

Saturday, December 1 10am - 1pm
QUEENS
GreenThumb/LRP Compound
(See below for directions)

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.

Remember to check MTA weekend work schedules

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, 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
GROWTOGETHER T-SHIRT
DESIGN CONTEST!
This year’s theme is...

Live to Grow, Grow to Live
Vivir para Crecer, Crecer para Vivir

So pick up a pen, crayon, pencil or whatever you use to draw, and submit your pictures to the GrowTogether T-shirt contest! The winning design will appear on the 2013 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:
Monday, January 14th, 2013

Rules:
• Artwork must relate to the contest theme
• Designs must be in black & 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: T-shirt Design
49 Chambers St, Room 1020
New York, New York 10007
Or email them to: greenthumbinfo@parks.nyc.gov
If you have any questions, please call (212) 788-8070.

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 a positive impact on the community. We also offer project planning assistance and skills-building workshops.

Recent awards have enabled neighbors to come together to make healthy food available in their communities, transform empty lots into community gardens, organize tenants to advocate effectively for better housing conditions, and start school recycling programs.

Our next grant deadline is January 31. For a grant application and more info, call/email Arif Ullah at 212.822.9580 aullah@citizensnyc.org
Community Supported Agriculture and Community Gardens I
Paula Lukats, Just Food

Supplies: CSA Tool Kit

Are you curious about how a CSA works? Why do farmers decide to sell through CSAs? Why do NYC community members join CSAs? Come and hear from CSA farmers and members about how CSAs work and why it is a great way to get healthy, local veggies. You will need to register for all three sessions in this series. Please call or email Bilen at 212-442-8961 or bilen.berhanu@parks.nyc.gov.

Wednesday, Dec. 5th
5:30-7pm

Community Supported Agriculture and Community Gardens II

Learn more about the ins and outs of setting up and running a CSA in your community. Learn how you can get connected with a farmer, how to set up flexible payment options for community members and how Just Food can help you get started. We'll hear from experienced CSA organizers about their partnership with their farms and the work they do to manage their CSAs. You will need to register for all three sessions in this series.

Wednesday, January 9th
5:30-7pm

Community Supported Agriculture and Community Gardens III

There are lots of possible ways for CSAs and gardens to partner together as part of their community. Gardens can be CSA distribution locations, CSAs can contribute volunteer time to help with garden projects, CSAs and gardens can work together to set up composting initiatives and more! Come explore ways to create these strong, exciting community connections.

Wednesday, February 13th
5:30-7pm

All three workshops will be at the Just Food office 1155 6th Avenue (between 44th and 45th Sts)

Train: Take the 1, 2, 3, 7, A, C, N, R, Q to Times Sq or the B, D, F, M to 47 -50th Sts Roackerfeller St

Crazy for Composting
Jodie Colón
Compost Educator, The NYC Compost Project in the Bronx

Are you passionate about composting but want more from your bin? This Q&A session provides the practical tips, advice, and encouragement you need to take composting to the next level, whether you are just starting out or have been digging in for years.

Pre-registration recommended. Contact the NYC Compost Project in the Bronx at compost@nybg.org or 718.817.8543.

Saturday, February 16th
10-12 pm or 1-3pm

(You can register for either or both sessions)

Supplies: Compost / Soil / Cleanfill / Mulch Request (for Spring delivery)


Bus: Bx41, Bx55 or Bx26 to Webster & Bedford Park Blvd. Train: B, D or 4 train to Bedford Park Blvd. Transfer to the Bx26 bus, OR walk eight blocks down the hill on Bedford Park Blvd to Kazimiroff Blvd. Please enter via gate on Kazimiroff Blvd, between Mosholu Parkway and Bedford Park Blvd.

Apply to take the NYC Compost Project Master Composter Certificate Course

- Develop community-based activities that reach and teach others about composting.
- Start, manage, and maintain indoor and outdoor composting systems.

Contact your local NYC Compost Project for info about the next Master Composter Certificate Course in your borough!

NYC Compost Project Contact Info
Bronx: (718) 817-8543; compost@nybg.org
Brooklyn: (718) 823-7290; compost@vbg.org
Manhattan: (212) 477-3155, info@iesecologycenter.org
Queens: (718) 539-5266; compost@queensbotanical.org
Staten Island: (718) 425-3558; compost@snug-harbor.org

Funded and managed by the NYC Department of Sanitation’s Bureau of Waste Prevention, Reuse & Recycling, the NYC Compost Project provides compost education and outreach in all five boroughs.

www.nyc.gov/wasteless/compostproject
Chip in! Help NYC grow by mulching your Christmas tree January 12th and 13th. Remove all lights, ornaments, stands, and plastic bags from your tree and bring it to a MulchFest location on Saturday or Sunday, January 12 & 13, 2013 from 10 am to 2 pm. Call 311 to find the nearest site to you and the participating GreenThumb gardens!

Saturday
January 12

MULCHFEST

Sunday
January 13

Congratulations from GreenThumb to the inaugural class of the NYC Farm School!

Reflections from Tai Gilbert

There are moments in life when it becomes very clear that you’ve made a decision that will profoundly affect your life. Deciding to participate in Farm School NYC’s pilot certificate program was one of those moments for me. I knew from the minute I received my acceptance email that things would be different. And they have been. The information I have learned about agriculture, food justice, and the nature of life itself has forever changed my perspective on sovereignty, sustainability, and interdependence. It has changed what I believe about what’s possible and what one person can do. I have always believed in doing what’s right and contributing the best that you can. Now, the scope is different and the hope for the future has some very practical and attainable actions that go with it.

The connections I have made with both my fellow students and my instructors has given me another family, an amazing, talented, and beautiful circle that I never could have imagined. I have made friendships here that will not only last my lifetime, but are ones that mutually contribute to and support greater visions for this city and what is possible when people are committed to change.

It’s been a life changing experience. And as I get ready to complete the certificate program, I find myself incredibly grateful to my fellow students, instructors, and all the people who have worked so hard for the past couple of years to make this experience informative, inspiring, and transformational. It is more than I could have hoped for. Thank you so much. My world has changed because of you!

All my heart,
Tai

Farm School NYC is a two-year educational program for adults that is dedicated to training new experts in the field of urban agriculture. As the school continues to grow, it will serve as a resource and support for NYC food growers, increasing urban food production and access and encouraging cities to recognize and support urban agriculture.

www.justfood.org/farmschoolnyc
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 Giveaway is an excellent opportunity to stock up on supplies. See page 2 in this guide.
7. Drain Rainwater Harvesters: If you have a rainwater harvester in your garden, you need to drain them to prevent the water inside from freezing, which could then damage faucets or pipes.

Membership Update
GreenThumb Staff

It’s the time of year again when we need to update our records and make sure we have your garden’s accurate contact information for your membership. As part of Parks’ overall Green Initiative, we’re revamping our data collection system in order to make it greener, paperless and easier on you and us! You can email us your garden contact list and please make sure at least one of the garden’s Contact Persons has a valid email address. Send to greenthumbinfo@parks.nyc.gov

Learn to grow more food!
Attend a City Farms workshop!
For more information: www.justfood.org/cityfarms/workshops
Or contact Owen: 212-645-9880 x229, owen@justfood.org

Sell your garden vegetables at a farmers market!
Call Nadia for details about starting or joining markets: (212) 645-9880 x228, nadia@justfood.org

Join the City Farming NYC Meetup!
Find out about upcoming workshops and events, post on a discussion board, and answer each others’ questions about farming in NYC. http://www.meetup.com/City-Farming-NYC/

JUST FOOD is a NYC based non-profit working to grow fresh, locally-grown food in the neighborhoods of NYC

1155 Avenue of the Americas, 3rd Fl
New York, NY 10036
Tel: (212)645-9880
www.justfood.org

Please save the date!
29th Annual GreenThumb GrowTogether Conference
Saturday March 23, 2013

As we put our garden beds to rest for the season, GreenThumb remembers all our beloved gardeners lost in 2012.
May they rest in peace.
### DECEMBER

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### WINTER EVENT CALENDAR

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

#### Winter Supply Giveaway
- **Saturday, Dec. 1st**
- **10am - 1pm**
- **QUEENS**

#### Community Supported Agriculture and Community Gardens I
- **Wednesday, Dec. 5th**
- **5:30 - 7pm**
- **MANHATTAN**

#### Community Supported Agriculture and Community Gardens II
- **Wednesday, Jan. 9th**
- **5:30 - 7pm**
- **MANHATTAN**

#### Mulchfest
- **Saturday, Jan. 12th**
- **10am - 2pm**
- **CITYWIDE**

#### GROWTOGETHER T-SHIRT CONTEST DEADLINE
- **Monday, Jan. 14th**
- **5pm**
- **CITYWIDE**

#### Community Supported Agriculture and Community Gardens III
- **Wednesday, Feb. 13th**
- **5:30 - 7pm**
- **MANHATTAN**

#### Crazy for Composting
- **Saturday, Feb. 16th**
- **10am - 3pm**
- **BRONX**
Be Greener!

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