

What's Growing On?



Hi friends,

Boy, how crazy is this weather!?! Remember just a couple of months ago, we were wondering when it would warm enough so we wouldn't have to keep running out to cover our seedlings to protect them from a frost? Now, we are roasting. Truly a reminder to be careful, what you wish for!

I don't know about you, but I have learned a lot in my vegetable garden this year. I have learned that I need to do something more when it comes to watering and irrigation. I also learned that squirrels eat zucchini, sunflower, and corn stems. What lesson have you learned from your garden this year?

I have also had some other problems, too. I had spotted lantern fly nymph sightings on my basil, hibiscus, and sunflower plants. They are super quick and hard to catch but stay diligent with these invasive bugs. While my pollinator garden looks beautiful, I don't have any monarch eggs on my milkweed. I also have been getting some weird, black mold-like growth on my sunflower leaves. Always something to learn about.

On the positive side, we are harvesting tomatoes, cucumbers, basil, thyme, chives, and mint. Beans and eggplant are on the horizon!

Happy Planting!

Nancy

Growing our presence on social media, follow us:

- Facebook and Instagram:
@Learnthroughgardening
- Twitter: @LearnTGardening



Upcoming August Events:

3rd - Watermelon Day

8th - Zucchini Day

15th - Relaxation Day

21st - Honeybee Day

29th - More Herbs less Salt Day

1st Week- National Farmer's
Market Week

National Peach Month

Important Announcements:

- Best Practice Workshop dates: October 18 for South Jersey and October 21* for North Jersey! *NEW DATE!! You can sign up now....look on page 2!
- Cool weather leafy vegetables will be delivered beginning the week of September 12th.
- If you are eligible, you have completed your first three-year affiliation, please sign up to be an Ambassador School so this fall delivery is not your last. See Page 2 for details!

Growing our Curriculum!

We are so excited to be awarded a Farm to School Grant from the USDA. Learning through Gardening in conjunction with NJ Agriculture in the Classroom will be producing a **four video series**. Each video will feature a trip to the farm where students meet farmers across New Jersey and learning about the sources of their food and about what it is like to be a farmer, directly from the farmer. We want to educate students so that they become adults who work to keep New Jersey green, growing, and nourished. Each video will also have pre- and post-activities to introduce and extend learning.

We look forward to making the Farm to School video series project and see it as the beginning of a rich, new, and expanding learning path for students in the Learning Through Gardening program and beyond.



BEST PRACTICE WORKSHOP:

There will be two presentations of BPW held this year; one located in Northern NJ and one in Southern NJ. The Workshop will cover a variety of topics including composting/vermicomposting, planning and planting, other ideas to keep gardening alive in the classroom. Participants will be building a composter or a vermicomposter to bring back to their school!

Tuesday, October 18 - Best Practice South will be held at Rowan College at Burlington County; 8:30-12:00

Friday, October 21* - Best Practice North will be held at Institute of Food Nutrition and Health** (Rutgers); New Brunswick, NJ; 8:30-12:00.

*This is a new date!!

**Please be advised, that food and drink are not allowed in the room.

Registration is open, now! [Click here!](#)

Join Growing Together! as an Ambassador School

For our "graduate" schools and schools aging out of the program, don't forget to fill out the application to become a Growing Ambassador. This is a three-year affiliation to keep your school garden growing!

This can be applied for after your school has been a Growing Partner School or a Growing Associate School. The application is just an update for our records! All applicants are happily accepted!

[Click here for the application.](#)

Thank you to all our "graduates" who are now Ambassador Schools!

Come Grow with Us!

Remember to harvest regularly from your garden; this encourages production!

Pick zucchini and other squashes before they get too big or else they might be bitter.