



# The Columbus Green Patch

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Summer is just around the corner! | [VIEW IN BROWSER](#)

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## A note from the Growing To Green Coordinator:

As we welcome the warmth of summer, we're excited to celebrate National Gardening Week! This annual event, which takes place from June 2–8, is a wonderful opportunity to recognize the importance of gardening in our lives and in our communities. Growing to Green is proud to play a role in supporting the growth and development of community gardens throughout Central Ohio, and we're thrilled to share some highlights from our program with you in this month's newsletter.

Gardening is more than just a hobby or a way to get some fresh air and exercise – it's a way to connect with nature, build community, and improve our health and well-being. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just starting out, we hope you'll join us in celebrating the joy and beauty of gardening. From the vibrant colors of blooming flowers to the satisfaction of that first bounty of fresh veggies, there's no denying the magic that happens in the garden.

As we celebrate National Gardening Week, we're reminded of the many ways that gardening brings people together. Whether it's through community gardens, garden clubs, or your favorite social media influencer, gardening has a way of fostering connections and building relationships. We're proud to be a part of this movement, and we're grateful for the opportunity to support and amplify the work of our community garden partners.

- Sean M. McKay

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## Meet a New Community Garden

### ***THIS IS VINEYARD'S VIBRANT VILLAGE GARDEN - Alisha Payne***

A wise person once said, "Grief is the price we pay for love." The grief that I experienced from the loss of my beautiful mother, Loretta Hill-Stuckey, seemed unbearable. Several years prior, she had moved in with my husband, Brad and I, as I became her caregiver. But she was much more than my mother. She was my friend, my SHero, and my first true love. Her "VIBRANT" spirit was interwoven in every part of my being.

In order to heal, I knew that I had to move forward with my life. By profession, I am a Certified Professional Life Coach, Empowerment Speaker, and the Author of "WOMAN UP! The 10 Commandments For Becoming The Masterpiece You Were Designed To Be." However, I had no intention of diving back into these areas of my life. My next move had to be something that was beautiful, filled with life, and a way to honor my extraordinary mother.

On January 4th, I contacted my pastor, Matt Stephens of the Vineyard Christian Church. I sent him my complete proposal, my mission, and my vision for a community garden. Unbeknown to me, his amazing wife, Claudia, had the same vision a year prior. Both Pas. Matt and Sis. Claudia had been praying for God to send someone to execute this vision.

I am excited that April 8, 2024 (Solar Eclipse Day), marked the day we began preparing our land for our VINEYARD'S VIBRANT VILLAGE GARDEN. We will operate this first year as a communal garden. Our mission is simple, yet POWERFUL... SOW, GROW and GIVE. We want to be a beacon of light in our community. VVVG will be a source of nutritious produce, a place of tranquility, and an epicenter to learn about healthy lifestyles; as we take a holistic approach to feeding the spirit, body, and soul. Our incredible VVVG Team meets most Saturdays at 9am.

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## Educational Opportunities



### **Growing to Green Harvest Award Applications Open!**

The Growing to Green Harvest Awards honors the dedication and hard work of many Central Ohio communities and individuals while furthering Growing to Green's objective of promoting participation in city beautification and community gardening.

Applications Open: June 1–August 15, 2024

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# Juneteenth Joy

**JOURNEY FOR JUSTICE.  
PATHWAY TO A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE.**

## National Garden Week Free Kickoff Event

**June 2, 11–3 pm**

**Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical  
Gardens**

Visit the GCGC Growing and Growth Collective (GCGC) booth near the Scotts Miracle-Gro Company Children’s Garden for *7 Gardens...7 Days* and meet the group that supports backyard and community gardens in Franklin County and beyond.

Admittance to this Community Day is free to all Franklin County residents.

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## Juneteenth Joy

**June 9, 2–4 PM**

**The Wells Barn, 1777 E. Broad St., Franklin  
Park**

Join local growers for a community conversation on how food producers and consumers can promote justice, sustainability, and control over what and how we grow and eat. Keynote speaker Jim Embry is an eco-activist farmer, Sustainable Communities Network founder, and civil rights activist and has been involved in social justice movements for 65 years.

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## Farmers Market

**Wednesdays, 3:30–6:30PM**

**The Wells Barn, 1851 E. Broad St.**

Vendors offer a mix of local produce, baked goods, specialty foods, handmade items, and health & beauty products. EBT is accepted for all qualifying purchases and incentive dollars through the Produce Perks Columbus program.

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## Veggie Champs at the Farmers Market

**Wednesdays, 3:30–6:30PM**

**The Wells Barn, 1851 E. Broad St.**

Each week during the Wednesday Farmers Market the VEGGIE CHAMPS tent will be open, Pick up a VEGGIE CHAMPS passport, participate in the weekly activity, receive a stamp on your passport, earn \$2 in VEGGIE BUCKS to use at the Market.

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### **Communal Garden Series**

**Monday, June 24, 6–7:30pm**  
**The Wells Barn, 1851 E. Broad St.**

Cherry, Beefsteak, Heirloom! Fresh homegrown tomatoes are the summer's most desirable produce. A mouthwatering tomato is a real reward from the garden, and an abundant tomato crop can be a home gardener's dream. This class will teach you how to grow and care for your crop, share tips for harvesting, and cover ways to save your best seeds for next year.

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### **Pollinator Palooza**

**Saturday, June 22, 11–3pm - FREE EVENT**  
**In the Scotts Miracle-Gro Company**  
**Community Garden Campus**

Celebrate birds, bees, butterflies, and all of the other creatures that make our gardens grow during Pollinator Palooza in conjunction with National Pollinator Week. Engage with local pollinator advocacy organizations, while enjoying learning opportunities, crafts, music, garden tours, and more.

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**Growing and Growth Collective's  
Pre-Juneteenth  
Kick-Off Celebration**

**Pre-Juneteenth  
Kick-Off Celebration**

**Thursday, June 13, 6–7:30pm  
1201 Hildreth Avenue 43203**

Celebrate Juneteenth early with the Growing and Growth Collective, the OSUWMC James Mobile Education Kitchen, local We Grow: NES farmers, Bronzeville Growers Market leaders, and representatives from Broad Street Presbyterian Church's Food Pantry and Community Outreach Team.

[LEARN MORE](#)



  
GROWING & GROWTH  
COLLECTIVE

**Growers & Griots**

*An Evening with  
Chef BJ Dennis*

Tuesday, June 25  
5:00 - 7:00 pm

Location:  
Broad Street Presbyterian Church

**Growers & Griots  
An Evening with Chef BJ Dennis**

**Tuesday, June 25, 5–7pm  
760 East Broad Street Columbus, OH 43205**

During an interview with Dr. Jared Grant, assistant professor in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences, Chef BJ Dennis will be sharing his perspectives on the local food supply system and how small-scale growers and chefs can partner together -- Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics).

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### Juneteenth Block Party

June 18, 12–4pm

880 E. 11th Avenue Columbus, OH 43211

Join us for a day of culture and fun.

Free seeds will be distributed.

[LEARN MORE](#)



### FACCES Urban Garden

1st & 3rd Thursday of each month, 4:30–  
6:30PM

2515 Lockbourne Rd, Columbus, OH 43207

Discover the wonders and beauty of gardening  
with Garden Tours every Monday to Friday from  
9am–12pm.

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### Garden Day at Morrison Hill Community Garden

June 15, 10am–12pm

The Morrison Hill Community Garden will have a garden day. Also, if you know of anyone still looking for a garden plot, we have some available.

LEARN MORE



**ESA@50 ART MURAL FOR LINDEN**  
*And Pollinator Party!*  
Speakers, Vendors, Music, Prizes, & More!

Date : Saturday, June 15, 2024  
Time : 1 PM - 4 PM  
Venue : 929 Oakland Park Ave  
CCC for PPP Garden Tours 4 pm - 6 pm

**NATIVE PLANT GIVEAWAY!**

**FREE! REGISTER HERE >**

Google  
Registration  
Form



### ESA@50: Art Mural for Linden and Pollinator Party

Saturday, June 15, 1–6pm, 929 Oakland Park  
Ave.

Free native plant giveaway,  
Native plant games, Prizes, Speakers,  
Music, and local vendors!

LEARN MORE

## Youth Educational Programming




**JUNE 5,  
2024**

**CINCINNATI,  
OHIO**

## GREEN SCHOOLYARDS SUMMIT

The Summit will showcase the collaboration between Green Umbrella, Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS), and the City of Cincinnati to implement a district-wide Green Schoolyards initiative focused on providing equitable access to outdoor learning and environmental educational resources for all students and staff members. This is an inclusive event. Scholarships are available for anyone who finds the registration cost-prohibitive. Please contact [cynthia@greenumbrella.org](mailto:cynthia@greenumbrella.org).

REGISTER BY MAY 20



## Community Garden Mapping Initiative

Fill out this link for all of your garden spaces to be added to our map? The garden can be marked as private so the general public will not see it, administrators will be able to share resources and upcoming events with these spaces. It only takes 2-3 minutes to fill out.

All participants will be entered in to win a **FREE** family membership to the Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens.

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Watch this video to learn more about Zoo Brew.

LEARN MORE

## Price Organics Farm

### FREE ZOO BREW COMPOST

Through grant funds obtained from the USDA-NRCS Compost & Food Waste Reduction Program, Price Farms Organics, in conjunction with the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts is able to provide compost to Non-Profits, Urban, School, and Community Gardens at no cost to the receiving organizations.



## Volunteer Opportunities

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Are you looking for volunteer opportunities within the community? Growing to Green's Community Connections program is for anyone interested in volunteering within community garden spaces throughout Central Ohio.

Experienced Growing to Green staff will be on-site with expertise and guidance. No garden experience is needed. This is a great opportunity to give back to your community and learn about all of the cool and impactful gardens in our neighborhoods. Volunteers must sign up individually.

Would you like Community Connections to volunteer at your community garden?

Contact Lauren Preston at [lpreston@fpconservatory.org](mailto:lpreston@fpconservatory.org)

## **Sign Up to Volunteer at one of these Gardens**

**Southeast Urban Farm: JUNE 7, 9–11AM**

**Bishop Griffith Wellness Garden: JUNE 10, 9–11AM**

**Charles Nabrit Memorial Garden: JUNE 26, 4–7PM**

**21st Street Community Garden: JULY 2, 9AM–12PM**

**Friendship Missionary Baptist Community Garden: JULY 13, 9–11AM**

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## **Resource Opportunities**

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### **GREATER COLUMBUS GROWING COALITION**

Join the GCGC a grassroots organization that supports community and backyard gardeners in Franklin County and beyond. Meetings are on the first Thursday of each month.

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### **COMMUNITY BACKYARDS \$50 REBATE PROGRAM**

This is an annual program by Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District that promotes water quality education for residents in Franklin County, Ohio. Our goal is to protect water quality by reducing stormwater runoff. We can do that in our own backyards by keeping rain where it falls and using it as a resource. We encourage and incentivize the use of rain barrels, rain gardens, native plants, composting, and low-input lawn care to keep our waterways healthy and safe.

[LEARN MORE](#)



## Franklin Park Conservatory Community Garden

**Join the Franklin Park Conservatory Community Garden**

**PLOT HOLDER WAITLIST** Are you interested in becoming a community garden plot holder at Franklin Park Conservatory? Sign up to be on the waitlist.

We can also connect you to other community gardens!

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### Join the Conservatory Community Garden

#### PLOT HOLDER WAITLIST

Are you interested in community gardening at Franklin Park Conservatory? Sign up to be on the waitlist.

[LEARN MORE](#)



### Need Seeds for Your Garden?

#### FREE SEEDS

Contact Lauren Preston at [lpreston@fpconservatory.org](mailto:lpreston@fpconservatory.org) to schedule a time to look through our seed collection.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Franklin Park Conservatory  
and Botanical Gardens

1777 EAST BROAD STREET  
COLUMBUS, OH 43203  
[fpconservatory.org](http://fpconservatory.org)



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Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens 1777 E. Broad Street Columbus, OH 43203  
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