

NRH COMMON GROUND DEC '22/JAN '23 NEWSLETTER

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NEWS AND UPDATES

Exciting changes to our Spring Seminar!

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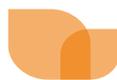
MONTHLY GARDEN TASK CHECKLIST

Let's get our plots cleared out and winterized!

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COOKING WITH THE SEASONS

Check out recipes that use the produce you're harvesting!



PLOT RENEWAL PROCESS

It's time to renew your membership to Common Ground! In the interest of ease and efficiency for everyone, we have added an online option for payment this year through Zelle.

Rachel, our Garden Coordinator, will be sending out the link to the renewal application in an email on December . Once you click on the link, you can fill out your renewal application right there on our website. Please make sure to review the terms and policies document, as it is revised each year!

On the application, there will be two options for payment – pay via postal mail, or pay via Zelle. After submitting your application, you will receive an email with instructions on how to submit your payment based on the method you selected.

If you have not received the renewal email by Dec 7th, or if you have any questions, please email Rachel at CommonGroundNRH@hotmail.com or send a question through the website.





PROTECT THE POLLINATORS

Pollinators such as bees, butterflies, wasps, and moths are nature's way of... well, pollinating plants! Without these helpful friends, gardeners would spend most of our time out in the garden with q-tips and the like, swabbing and swapping pollen between blooms to try and ensure a harvest.

Here are a few things you can do to help these crucial creatures make it through the winter:

- **Leave the leaves!** Some neighborhoods (or neighbors) won't allow for fallen leaves to be left where they fall, but leaves make a great fall mulch for a garden that is resting, or around your perennials.
- **Minimize pesticide use!** Pesticides do not discriminate between "good" bugs and "bad" bugs - they affect them all. Spot-treat any issues instead of broadcasting over a large area, and use organic options when possible.
- **Plant fall-friendly flowers!** These can provide pollinators with the fuel they need to make it through the winter.

The Spring Gardening Seminar is Soon!

The Spring Gardening Seminar will be **February 18th, 2023** and we have several exciting changes this year!

The NRH Centre has graciously allowed us to use The Grand Hall (6000 Hawk Ave, NRH, TX 76180), so there will be plenty of room for everyone and their friends! This extra space means we will also be able to invite more of our partners and sponsors to share in the fun.

We plan to have two expert presentations with a longer intermission to allow time for more questions, prizes, and making new garden friends! If you have any gardening questions that aren't covered in the seminar presentations, make sure to stop by the Tarrant County Master Gardener table so they can help you get it figured out.

Keep an eye out for more updates on Facebook and the website as the seminar approaches, we can't wait to see everyone there!



MONTHLY GARDEN TASKS

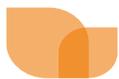


It is time to get our plots ready for winter! According to the Garden Guidelines that all members have agreed to, plots are to be “winterized” by December 1st. All dead vegetation must be removed from garden plots. Soil must be protected from damaging winter rains and excessive weed growth – either by cover crop, mulch, or landscape cloth. Winter gardens are encouraged, but must be maintained to minimum standards of the growing season. If you have any questions about the guidelines, or if you need help getting your plot ready for winter, please send an email to CommonGroundNRH@hotmail.com so we can help you get it figured out.



DECEMBER

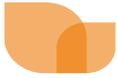
- Make sure that your garden plots are cleared out and mulched heavily, or covered with an approved material, or planted with cover crops/winter crops.
- Clean and sanitize tools, seed starting equipment, and planting pots.



JANUARY

- Plan the spring garden.
- (Early) Start broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, and brussel sprouts indoors to prepare for a mid-February transplant.
- (Late) Start peppers and eggplants indoors to prepare for a mid-April transplant.

COOKING WITH THE SEASONS



CRANBERRY WALNUT SLAW

3 cups chopped cabbage
1 cup shredded carrots
1 cup dried cranberries (Craisins)
½ cup chopped walnuts

In a large bowl, combine all ingredients and stir gently.

Drizzle with raspberry walnut vinaigrette.



**This easy and delicious recipe
was submitted by Suzanne,
our Garden Treasurer!**



SARAH'S HOLIDAY PUNCH

1 gallon apple juice
About 40 oz orange juice
2 apples
1 orange
Cloves
Cinnamon sticks
2 Tbsp allspice
4 star anise

In a 7 qt crockpot (or bigger), pour apple and orange juice. Set on low, without lid.

Slice apples and orange, then stab 2-3 cloves into the peel/rind of each slice.

Add fruit, allspice, and star anise into the crockpot and stir. Add cinnamon sticks as desired (5 sticks provide a *hint* of cinnamon).

Cook on low for 6-8 hours, stirring occasionally to release the holiday aroma. Serve warm, with or without spirits.



KALE SOUP

1 Tbsp olive oil
½ onion, finely chopped
2 stalks celery, finely chopped
1 leek, thinly sliced (white and pale green parts only)
3 cloves garlic, minced
2 tsp thyme, chopped
½ tsp red pepper flakes
salt
pepper
4 cups vegetable broth
2 cups water
2 15.5oz cans cannellini beans, drained and rinsed
1 lemon
1 large bunch kale, de-stemmed and torn into medium pieces
Parmesan cheese, grated

In a large pot, heat oil over medium heat. Add onion, celery, leek and cook until slightly soft. Add garlic, thyme, red pepper flakes and cook until fragrant. Season with salt and pepper.

Add broth, water, beans and bring to a simmer. Stir occasionally while mashing a few beans to thicken the soup. Let simmer 15 minutes, stir in lemon juice and kale. Cook until wilted.

Garnish with parmesan.



