

COMMON GROUND

NRH Community Garden

**“EACH *SPRING*... A
GARDENING INSTINCT,
SURE AS THE SAP RISING
IN THE TREES,
STIRS WITHIN US.
WE LOOK ABOUT AND
DECIDE TO TAME A
*LITTLE BIT OF
GROUND.*”**

LEWIS GANTT

Upcoming Events

Even though we are not sure of the future, we still want to keep our garden looking lovely for all who pass by it. We will continue with our monthly work days until further notice. Please look at page 3 for updated details.

The city of North Richland Hills and the Common Ground Board are combining efforts to work with the UMC General Conference to determine the future of our present location. Our desire is to continue the community garden, so the option of moving to a new location is a possibility, if necessary. We will send you updates whenever possible!

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR COMMON GROUND:

CommongroundNRH@hotmail.com

If you have questions or concerns, use this new email address to contact us!

20 Things to Include in a Garden Journal

Part Three

In the October and December issues of Common Ground, we presented the first ten of the twenty things that would be beneficial to record in a garden journal. Part One included weather, dates, insects, inventory and standouts. Part Two suggested adding plant flops, harvest dates, inventory of seeds, pantry and canning inventory, and crop rotation plan. Following is Part Three of beneficial items to record in your garden journal.

11. Add photos to your vegetable garden journal.

Take pictures of your plants and garden layout. Take pictures of pests, produce, weeds. Include anything that you want to remember, learn more about, or avoid in the future.



12. Draw in your journal



During the winter months, make sketches of your garden layout for the year. In the summer, draw out your fall garden. Sketch out your great ideas for a DIY trellis or compost bin.

13. Make comparison charts

Compare varieties of plants against each other. You can make an easy chart to compare two or three types of beans you tried this year. Or, note the taste of each of the 5 types of tomatoes you grew. Or which types of eggplant were heavy or weak producers.



14. Inspiration and ideas to try



Use your vegetable garden journal to jot down ideas and inspiration whenever you find them. Even if it is just a note about something you saw online, you can write down the web address or where you saved it for easy recall later.

15. Write down your fertilizing and pest control schedule.

When did you fertilize your garden? How often? What kind of fertilizer did you use? What were the results? Make the same notes about your pest control methods. If you know what works and what doesn't you'll be better prepared for next year's garden.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

MONTHLY WORKDAY SCHEDULE

Although things are changing in the garden, we still plan to have team workdays. We hope to keep the garden clean, tidy and weed-free. So if possible, please plan to join us on your assigned Saturday from 9:00 am to 10:30 am and spend time with other gardeners.

You will receive an email approximately one week before your assigned workday each month, just as a reminder. Please refer to the chart below for your plot number and the appropriate Saturday assignment.

TEAM #	MONTHLY WORK DAY	TEAM CAPTAIN	TEAM PLOT NUMBERS	TEAM WORK AREA & PLANT INFORMATION
1	First Saturday of each month	Sandy Guthrie	100, 101, 200, 201, 300, 301, 400, 401	Both ends of entry walkway and asparagus plot
2	Second Saturday of each month	Rachel Howe	102, 103, 104, 302, 303, 304	Grape/berries, wildflower bowl, Tx Hibiscus & bench
3	Third Saturday of each month	Suzanne Gibbs	105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311	Storage/trash/soil bins & Rosebush & Mexican petunia SW Corner
4	Fourth Saturday of each month	Suzanne Gibbs	504, 505, 506, 507, 508	Butterfly garden
5	Fourth Saturday of each month	Suzanne Gibbs	500, 501, 502, 503, 600, 601, 602	Two children's plots, arch, rain barrels, west side of patio
6	Fourth Saturday of each month	Suzanne Gibbs	202, 203, 204, 205, 402, 403, 404, 405	East side patio, swings, Vitex tree, roses, crape myrtle & Mexican petunia
7	Third Saturday of each month	Suzanne Gibbs	603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610	Native area E, bench/arbor, Lady Banks Rose NE corner
8	Second Saturday of each month	Rachel Howe	206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211	Native area C & D , Lady Banks Rose SE corner
9	First Saturday of each month	Sandy Guthrie	406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411	Native area G, Desert Willow tree, Turks cap & bench

TEAM CAPTAIN CONTACT INFORMATION

Suzanne Gibbs - skgibbs@att.net

Sandy Guthrie - guthrie.sandy@gmail.com

Rachel Howe - rachelhowe@hotmail.com

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

IF YOU CAN'T WORK ON YOUR SCHEDULED DAY, WORK WHEN YOU CAN.
REMEMBER TO SIGN IN (BOOK IN SHED) WHEN YOU WORK IN THE
COMMON AREAS.

Please remember Covid-19 restrictions when you are in the garden.
Wear a mask that covers mouth and nose,
social distance yourself six feet from other gardeners,
and use the hand sanitizer in the shed.

PARKS AND REC CHANGES!

Vickie Loftice Retirement

After more than 30 years of public service, Vickie Loftice is retiring from the City of North Richland Hills. Ms. Loftice began working for North Richland Hills as the Recreation Center Supervisor in 1989 and became Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation in 1999. She was promoted to Director in 2004 and later to Managing Director of Community Services overseeing the NRH Library. During her tenure, the city opened 23 new parks and trails, along with the NRH Centre, Senior Center and Grand Hall. She also oversaw the renovation of 5 of our oldest parks and numerous improvements to Iron Horse Golf Course, Richland Tennis Center and NRH2O Family Water Park. Vickie introduced the city's cultural arts program and elevated many community programs and special events. North Richland Hills Parks and Recreation would not be what it is today without Vickie's vision, leadership, passion and commitment. Vickie was also a gardener at Common Ground and an advocate for our garden with the city. Congratulations on your retirement!



Adrien Pekurney promoted to Director

North Richland Hills is pleased to announce the promotion of Adrien Pekurney to Director of Parks & Recreation to replace Vickie Loftice. Adrien, who has been with the City of NRH for nearly 22 years, will lead and direct the management and operation of all of our parks, trails and recreation amenities and facilities including the NRH Centre, Grand Hall, Senior Center, Richland Tennis Center, Iron Horse Golf Course and NRH2O Family Water Park. Adrien joined NRH Parks & Recreation in 1999 and was promoted to Recreation Center Manager a year later. She was integral in opening the NRH Centre in 2012 and developing it into one of the premier recreation facilities in the region. She served as NRH Centre Manager until 2017 when she was promoted to Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation. Adrien received her Bachelor of Science in Recreation and Leisure Services from Texas Tech University and her Master of Physical Education in Sports and Leisure Management from Southwest Texas State University. Common Ground congratulates Adrien on her promotion, and we look forward to working with her to continue our community garden.