



NEWS TO GROW BY!

## June 2022

### Gardens Open

Wet weather prevented garden tilling until May 12th this year. The only exception was County Farm which was tilled two weeks earlier. Site coordinators and volunteers quickly staked all the gardens and they were all open a day or two after being tilled.

### 2022 Plant Sale

Our plant sale this year was very successful! Like all things in the garden, every year we experience problems we have never seen before and this year was no exception. A large number of our tomato seedlings damped off and we needed to re-sow everything about 10 days later.

This forced us to delay the sale but, mid-May is a better time for a sale of mostly tender plants anyway. We plan for future sales to always be after Mother's Day, rather than the day before.











## Thank You!

We would like to thank all the volunteers who helped with our plant sale. More than **200** people volunteered! We decided to not list names because so many people were involved and we would not want to miss anyone. But, to give you an idea of the scale of the project, we will list all the jobs:

- Harvesting seeds from the 2021 tomato crop.
- Seed sowing and starting in January and March .
- Resowing* all the tomatoes in late March!
- Transplanting seedlings to 4 packs.
- Transplanting seedlings from 4 packs to 3" pots.
- Putting labels in all the 3" pots.
- Filling advance orders.
- Preparing for the sale, setting up shelving, and then plants and signs on the shelves.
- Helping with advance order pickup at Dawn Farm.
- Assisting shoppers at Dawn Farm during the sale.
- Clean up after the sale.
- Special thanks to Dawn Farm for hosting the sale.**

The plant sale is an important fundraiser and community event for Project Grow and would be impossible without these volunteers. Thank you!

## Project Grow's 50th Anniversary Celebration

Join **Project Grow** at the **Leslie Science and Nature Center** on **Saturday, August 20th, 2022 from 11am to 2pm** for our 50th Anniversary in a wonderful celebration of community, nature, and gardening! This free event includes fun for the whole family: try the annual Project Grow Tomato Tasting or food trucks **¡Whoa! Tacos** and

**Shimmy Shack**, enjoy music and dancing, learn from nature exhibits and lessons on nature and ecology, and even pick-your-own-crops in a Project Grow garden!

### **Mark your Calendar!**

**What: Project Grow's 50 Anniversary Celebration and Tomato Tasting.**

**Where: Leslie Science and Nature Center.**

**When: Saturday August 20th, 2022 11am-2pm.**

We welcome volunteers to help with preparing the Leslie garden leading up to our 50th Anniversary Celebration in August! Opportunities are available from mid-June through August 20th and times and dates are very flexible to meet your schedule. Please contact [scott@projectgrowgardens.org](mailto:scott@projectgrowgardens.org) to volunteer.



## **Join the 2022 Project Grow 50th Anniversary Site Tour!**

Would you like to see more or all of the Project Grow garden sites? Project Grow's 50th Anniversary Committee invites gardeners to tour and learn about all of our Project Grow sites on the **2022 Project Grow 50th Anniversary Site Tour**.

Tours are scheduled on every other Saturday morning from 9am - 11am. Participants will drive to each site for the day's tour in a total of two hours with about fifteen to twenty minutes available for engaging at each site.

The detailed schedule, dates, and free tickets are available on our event link - please sign up [here](#). Please email any questions about the tour to [scott@projectgrowgardens.org](mailto:scott@projectgrowgardens.org).

## **Leaf Mulch**

Leaves for mulching are available for pickup at our Ellsworth garden site behind Community Mental Health at 2140 E Ellsworth. They are in the back of the parking lot next to the dumpster enclosure. You will need to bring something to put them in (garbage/leaf bags, buckets, etc), maybe a shovel/pitchfork

and work gloves.

## Spring Classes Through Rec and Ed

Project Grow is offering one more class in June through Ann Arbor Rec and Ed. All the Rec and Ed classes:

- Last 2 hours from 7pm-9pm.
- Cost \$15.
- Will be held online.
- Are for ages 18 and up.

### **Integrated Pest Management**

#### **Thursday June 2nd**

How do you protect your garden from all the creatures large and small that want to share in your harvest? Find out who they are and what you can do to control them without resorting to pesticides. The four strategies of Integrated Pest Control - cultural, physical, biological, and chemical will be discussed in detail. Topics will include maintenance of plant and soil health, the benefits of crop rotation and companion planting, the importance of garden hygiene, and the role beneficial organisms play in keeping your garden growing. Learn what it takes to keep pest outbreaks from occurring and how to get along with rabbits, deer, squirrels, chipmunks, and groundhogs. Instructor: Royer Held

[Register here!](#)

## Free Herb Growing Class

Caitlin Potere, one of our Catholic Social Services gardeners, just launched a free class about growing herbs in southeast Michigan. Caitlin has been growing herbs for the past 10 years and the class is targeted for community gardeners. Click [here](#) to register.





# HERBS FOR THE SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN GARDEN

*with Caitlin Potere*

## LEARN

- HOW TO GROW AND USE 20 CULINARY & MEDICINAL HERBS
- PRESERVATION TECHNIQUES
- TEAS, INFUSED HONEYS AND VINEGARS
- BASIC HERBAL MEDICINE CRAFTING INCLUDING POULTICES, COMPRESSES, OILS AND TINCTURES
- HOW TO RECOGNIZE EDIBLE AND MEDICINAL "WEEDS"
- SEVERAL PLANTS TO AVOID!
- LOCAL RESOURCES FOR SEEDS & SEEDLINGS
- + MORE!

## Goats at Greenview

Friends of Greenview have arranged to have a herd of goats brought to Greenview Nature Area to control some wild areas that have gotten a bit too wild. Goats eat everything, from poison ivy to cardboard, so they are contained in specific areas with a moveable electric fence. The fence delivers an unpleasant jolt if you touch it - please take care if you decide to visit.





# Native Plant Expo & Marketplace

The Washtenaw County Conservation District  
is hosting their annual native plant sale this  
Saturday, June 4 from 9am to 1pm.





The Native Plant Expo & Marketplace (NPEM) offers residents one convenient location to shop for Michigan native plants from several Michigan native plant growers, learn how to establish and maintain native landscapes and connect with partnering organizations. The sale will be held at a new location this year: Chelsea Community Fairgrounds. Check the [website](#) for details.

## Ann Arbor Farm and Garden Garden Walk Saturday June 4 and Sunday June 5

Ann Arbor Farm & Garden is pleased to partner with Nichols Arboretum to present a special garden walk in conjunction with the centennial celebration of the Arb's Peony Garden and the American Peony Society's (APS) annual conference. Seven unique, beautiful "Best of the Best" private gardens will be shared including an enchanting hillside wonderland, a delightful potager garden, a relaxing evergreen oasis, and more!

Click [here](#) for all the details, including parking and garden descriptions.



Tickets are on sale now *exclusively* through the [Michigan Union Ticket Office](#). Tickets are \$20 May 30 through June 3. NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE GARDENS ON THE DAY OF THE EVENT.

## Project Grow Gardens Around Town

Clockwise from top left:

- Greenview Kildeer
- Greenview South
- Greenview North
- Greenview South detail
- Northside
- Northside onions
- Northside carrots
- Composite of Catholic Social Services
- Onions at Zion
- Mixed bed at Zion
- Lettuce at Zion
- Potatoes at Zion
- Getting started at Scio 1
- Getting started at Scio 2
- Poppies at County Farm















