

JUNE 2020

EB COMMUNITY GARDEN NEWSLETTER

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide garden members with few tips, suggestions, and couple of pictures from the garden plots.



You may have noticed in the extreme left-hand side of the garden is a fenced area with a Beehive. (picture above).

Please observe from outside the fence and for your own safety do not enter the fenced area.

The Beehive is managed by Tarun Shivkumar and below is an introduction of him

Hello! My name is Tarun Sivakumar and I am going to be a senior in the fall. I became a beekeeper this spring, but the idea and preparation started years prior as a simple presentation in school on honeybees. I quickly developed interest while researching honeybees, especially the profound impact they have on our global food system. It fascinated and saddened me that bees, responsible for pollinating a third of the food produced in America, are on the verge of extinction. Deforestation, pesticide use, and climate change are causing the bee population to decline at an unprecedented rate. Although humans are largely responsible for this, they are also the best chance for the bee population to be saved.

My interest in this topic lived past just the presentation, however. I investigated what exactly was ailing bees - and what exactly we could do to help them. Out of everything I saw, beekeeping appealed to me the most because of its effectiveness in saving bees and ability to impact the community. I proposed my idea to the East Brunswick Youth Council, an organization that fosters communication, education

and information concerning youth and youth-related issues, to gain their support and input in embarking on this project. Their support, approval from East Brunswick Recreation and Parks, and especially the guidance from Dave and Lois Moscowitz allowed this project to take off.

Now that the bees have settled in, we are hopeful for a successful and healthy summer where the bees are able to produce honey for extraction, as well as increase produce at the Community Garden. I would be more than happy to talk more about this project at the garden (I will be in the back corner in the scary white suit)!

Please remember that ours is a community garden and your actions impact others.

Safe Gardening Rules for 2020 Season:

- All gardeners must wear a mask
- Only working gardeners are allowed in the garden. No extra people
- Do not crowd our parking area. As needed, park in the township lot and walk over
- Keep 6 feet away from other gardeners at all times
- All garden members must bring and use their own tools.
- Please keep the gate closed at all times.

Garden Hoses

When done with watering your plot, please shut the hose at the nozzle and wrap it neatly at the reel.

Be respectful of your neighbor's plot

Avoid walking into a plot next to you and damaging plants. Also, do NOT pick vegetables from someone else's plots.

Fence around your plot

It is important that everyone adhere to the rule that all structures, poles and fencing must be 8" inside the border of your plot. It is dangerous for the people mowing. This is from someone on the mowing committee: " I have noticed while mowing that quite a few plots are not adhering to the 8" clearance rule. Many times, the mower or handle has caught on the fencing whether it be plastic or metal. Metal is less problematic as it usually stays straight but occasionally it will sag and become an issue. While plastic ones are a lot worse."

If you have materials that interfere with the mowing, things in your plot might be moved and will be put inside your plot and we take no responsibility if your plants are impacted by this. It is not fair that you are creating a hazard to the people volunteering to mow our garden.

Trash

In addition, do not put trash into the compost bins located around the garden. The compost bins are for compostable material only. We have a huge dumpster for everything else. Use it!

Please remember that we all need to be respectful of the rules so that everyone can enjoy the peace, produce and relaxation that the garden brings to us all.

Flowers in the garden

