



Sunshine Newsletter

February 2022

Community Garden News



Our Community Garden is working on achieving certifications from the Master Gardener Association, the Audubon Society, and the Georgia Native Plant society. Part of

the criteria for certification is the elimination of invasive species in our designated areas.

Participants enrolled in our programs are learning to be 'Detectives' in identifying the top 5 invasive species; which include Bradford Pear trees and Mimosa trees. Volunteer groups have generously donated services to cut down, mulch and stump grind these trees to make way for healthy vegetation growth.

The community is invited to join us during open learning events in our Gardens. These will be held during the third week of the month on Thursday, Friday, and some Saturdays. Please send an email to beth@CreativeEnterprises.org to reserve your spot .

New Horizons

Audubon member, Steve Dupont, will lead us through the ways we can observe and count birds during The Great Backyard Bird Count event happening here at our Gardens from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on February 18th. Please join us for this fun learning experience ... bring your binoculars.



To get more information about the importance of this event please visit www.birdcount.org; where you can also get links to help out in your local area or home. You can also download a free app *Merlin Bird ID* from Cornell Lab.

From our observation tables we are seeing more and more birds appearing in our Gardens to use the bird houses and feeders we installed last December.



Watch for Wren houses coming soon.



Amazing Creations

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Using recycled material, individuals enrolled in our Art and Greenhouse programs have created labels that can be used to identify plants in your gardens. A FREE label is yours with the purchase of 4 vegetable starter plants. Additional labels are available at 2 for \$1.00.

We also have many hand painted gourd birdhouses to use for your outdoor feathered friends or to use as garden and home décor.



SALE

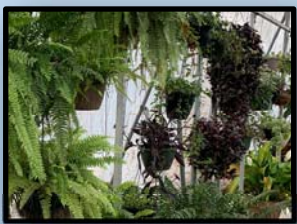
Spring will be here before you know it!! You can begin planting cold weather vegetables on March 15th, and warm weather vegetables on April 15th.

Pollinators, Herbs, Annuals and vegetables starting at \$2.00

Succulents starting at \$3.00

Hanging baskets starting at \$10.00

Pre-orders of garden plants and baskets are welcomed, just come by the Greenhouse anytime during regular business hours to place your special request.



Volunteers Needed

There are many ways to volunteer:

- work outside, or work inside
- work standing up or sitting down
- Work with your hands or think things through and draw up plans

So many ways to contribute your time to help support our mission of providing life skills training to individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities. Come on out to the garden and visit for a while.

You may be inspired!!

Contact Beth Arechiga
770-962-3908 prompt #8

Green Thumb Tips

- Finish plantings of berries, fruit Trees and vines.
- Start planning your tender bulb areas
- Top dress your beds with compost, leaves, or manure for a great start when you start planting next month.
- Get serious about your seed starting by organizing your area and make sure you have all your supplies such as seeds, soil and tools
- If you have not tested your soil in 2 years, now is a good time to get it tested. Contact your local extension office to find out sample requirements.

Current Hours

Monday—Friday 9am to 4pm