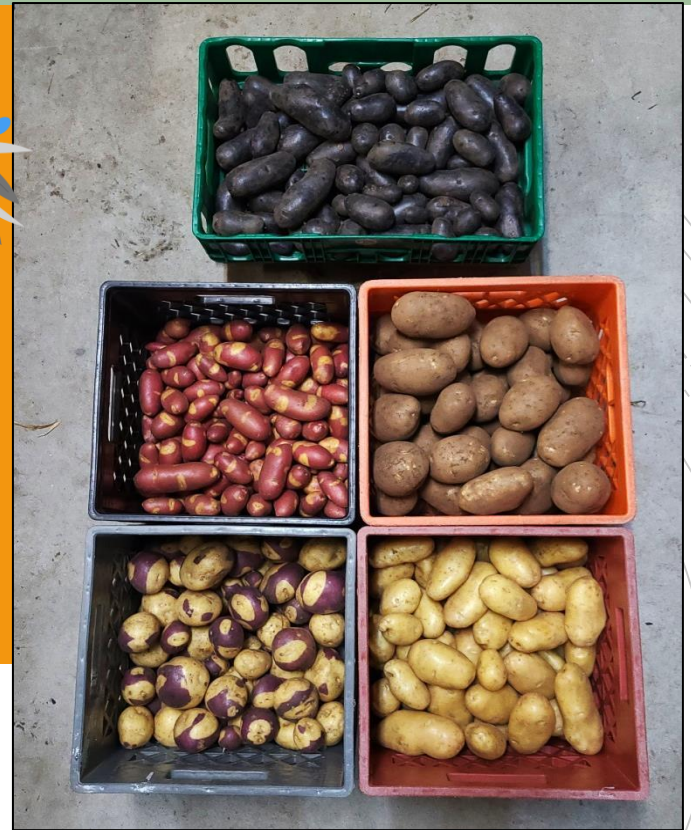


# *Welcome to the* **Juneau Community Garden Autumn Membership Meeting**



**Oct. 15, 2024**

# Agenda

1. Introduction – John Thedinga
2. Fall Wrap-Up: Garden Shut down and plot winterization – John Thedinga
3. Plot Renewal – Odette Edgar
4. Service Hour Opportunities – John Thedinga
5. Special events recap – Cynthia Krehbiel
6. Board Member Elections – John Thedinga
7. Growing Onions – Joel Bos
8. Compost Project update – Joel Bos
9. Charity Plots: 2024 Summary – Joel Bos
10. Questions & Comments



# Fall Wrap-Up

- **Saturday Oct. 19**

**Tool Cleaning & Garden  
Work Day (10-1)**

- **October 26**

**Turn off water system  
(Water remains in tank)**

- **November 4**

**Dumpster & Porta Potty  
removed**

Gate duty ends **Nov. 2**





# Prepare your plot for winter



**Remove**

**Plastic pipe and fleece covers**

**Clean-  
up**

**Remove crops & WEEDS (*Bag tomato & potato vines & diseased plants* ➔ *dumpster*)**

**Add**

**Amendments – compost, sand  
brewery grain, lime & sea weed**

**Cover &  
Secure**

**Black plastic or opaque tarp**

# Soil test

**UAF Cooperative Extension - SE AK**

**Darren Snyder: *[dgsnyder@alaska.edu](mailto:dgsnyder@alaska.edu)***



**Ready for the snow to fly**

# An Alaska Gardener's Fall & Winter To-Do List

## Fall To-Do List

- Remove crop residues from garden plots.** Most crop residue can be composted. Removing it also helps to prevent disease and insect pests, such as root maggots, from overwintering and returning.
- Remove and store poles, trellises and portable frames.** Avoid the effects of winter damage and weathering. Needed repairs or refinishing can also be accomplished now. Mark perennials for spring. A marked stake can indicate location and provide information on what should be emerging next spring.
- Apply mulch.** Mulch provides a protective, insulating layer around sensitive perennials. Avoid conditions and timing that would allow rodents to overwinter in the mulch. Use grass clippings or leaves or, even better, straw and weed-free hay. Mulch conserves moisture, reduces erosion and leaching, prevents rapid temperature fluctuations and improves soil structure after it is incorporated. Don't forget spring removal.
- Surround perennials in containers with insulating mulch.** The amount of soil in containers is not sufficient to buffer the fluctuating extremes of winter weather. Other options would be to place the container in the ground or store the plant in a sheltered location such as a crawl space or cool garage.
- Put away hoses and sprinklers.** Drain completely. Check for cracks and other damage. Store in a location where they will not be subject to physical damage.
- Store clay and terra-cotta pots out of the weather.** Clean thoroughly if they have been used. Store in a dry location away from activities that may cause breakage.
- Keep evergreen and deciduous shrubs well watered before the ground freezes.** Watering prevents winter desiccation. Plants can lose water even during dormancy. Watering is ineffective after the ground freezes. Insufficient moisture, frozen ground and winter wind combined can result in drying or winter kill.
- Carry out any garden expansion plans at this time.** Fall is usually a time of decreased activity, which allows opportunity for these projects. Conduct a soil test on the new garden area to determine fertility and liming requirements. This may be a good time to construct raised beds and improve the soil for their use.
- Plant bulbs.** Soil should be well drained. Fall planting allows time for root development so that the bulb can produce and push forth leaf growth as soon as spring soil conditions allow.



# Service Hour Opportunities



- Tool cleanup
- Water shut down
- Spread gravel: Farmer's Market, holes
- Weed whacker repair
- Wheelbarrow maintenance
- Children's bikes & toy maintenance
- Winterize mower & weed whackers
- Clear weeds from weed pile walkway
- Patch holes in wall of pump shed
- Charity plots – See Joel
- Compost Project jobs – See Joel



# Plot Renewal & Service Hours

Odette Edgar

# Renew Your Plot for 2025



**Work**

All required service hours - required to renew your plot

**Winterize**

Put your plot to bed for the winter

**Apply**

Between Nov. 1 → Feb. 1

**Pay**

PayPal or mail a check to:  
Juneau Community Garden  
PO Box 33395, Juneau, 99803

# Plot Renewal Requirements

Plot renewals begin November 1st.  
Must be a member in good standing  
(Operating rule #7).

1. Plots need to be winterized, weeds  
and garden debris taken care of –  
recommend covering plots

2. Service hours worked



# How to Record Service Hours

1. Click on Service Hour tab
2. Click on Service Hour Form
3. Fill in your hours on-line
4. Submit

## Juneau Community Garden Service Hours

Document your service hours here.

Sign in to Google to save your progress. [Learn more](#)

\* Indicates required question

Your Name \*

Your answer

Date you completed service hours \*

MM DD YYYY

\_\_ / \_\_ / \_\_

Plot Number \*

Your answer

What task did you complete? \*

Your answer

Number of hours worked \*

Your answer

Submit

Page 1 of 1

Clear form

# Waiver of Service Hours

## **Waivers for one season:**

- Major surgery, major illness or injury
- Multi-month family emergency
- Good for one plot only (even if renting more than 1 plot)

## **How to apply for a waiver:**

- Send email to Odette Edgar at “Membership” via [communitygarden998@gmail.com](mailto:communitygarden998@gmail.com).
- Briefly explain the circumstances.
- The board will consider the request and decide.
- Odette will notify the member of the decision.

This policy is included in the garden’s Operating Rules.


Odette Edgar

Membership Coordinator

Updated 4.22.2024

# Special Events

Cynthia Krehbiel



Net Profits:  
2022: \$2,740  
2023: \$2,800  
2024: \$1,940

## **Safeway Parking Lot Super Plant Sale**

**May 11, 2024**



Thanks to all that  
grew plants and  
worked at the sale!



Annual  
Rhubarb  
Fest Potluck  
June 22



Work parties  
throughout the  
summer





## Net Profits

2022: \$2392

2023: \$3680

2024: \$4245




Harvest Fair  
Aug 24, 2024

Includes Farmer's Market, Feast, and Bake Sale

Many, many thanks to all that volunteered their time and produce!

We fed and showed off our garden bounty to about 300 people





Board Member  
Election

# JCG Board of Trustees 2024

- John Thedinga            President
- Delores O'Mara        Vice President
- Alan Davis              Treasurer
- Pat McLearn            Secretary
- Cynthia Krehbiel      Events Coordinator
- Jeri Cary                Member at large
- Barbara Murray        Member at large
- Joel Bos                Charity Plot & Compost Coord.
- Odette Edgar          Non-Member Membership Coord.
- Pat Harris              Master Gardener Rep.
- Darren Snyder         Cooperative Ext. Serv. Rep.

I've invited you to fill out a form:

## Juneau Community Garden Board Election

Please vote for five (5) candidates for the Juneau Community Garden Board of Trustees.

[FILL OUT IN GOOGLE FORMS](#)

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 Google Forms





# Onions, Compost & Charity

Joel Bos

# Growing Onions in a rain forest



# Where to begin?

- ▶ Varieties- Sweet vs storage
  - ▶ Sweet - Ailsa Craig
  - ▶ Storage - Highlander, Patterson
  - ▶ Red onion??
- ▶ Long day vs short day
- ▶ Onion sets vs. Onion starts
- ▶ Starting from seed



# Starting from seed

- ▶ Start indoors in late Feb. or very early March
- ▶ Use either the *taller* 4 inch pots or 6 inch pots, ~80-100 per tray
- ▶ 5-7 onions per 4 inch pot
- ▶ 10-12 onions per 6 inch pot
- ▶ In early April move pots to an unheated greenhouse or cold frame. Cover onions with a row cover.
- ▶ In Mid to late April, depending on weather, you can plant them out in your garden





-Onions grow best with a soil PH between 6-7. So add lime or wood ashes in fall if necessary.

- Lots of compost & Down to Earth Organic all purpose fertilizer or fertilizer of your choice; add a tablespoon to each hole before transplanting.

-IRT & row cover protect from late April snow and frost and increase soil temps.

-Fertilize weekly through June with Alaska Fish Fertilizer or liquid fertilizer with a garden sprayer.

# Harvesting onions

- ▶ Late August is preferred. Onions thrive in a *relatively* dry late July and August.
- ▶ Row cover & IRT help keep soil dryer. In July, you can cut any yellowing tips or tips that are touching the row cover.
- ▶ When majority of onion tops have fallen over it's time to harvest. Choose a sunny, warm day. Skins should begin to brown before harvesting. However, in a rainforest or with sweet onions, you may want to harvest earlier to prevent rot and mold.
- ▶ Most literature tells you not to wash or peel them. If the soil is dry, that is preferred. With wet soil you should carefully peel 1 or 2 layers and set them in a cardboard box, tops on.
- ▶ I usually trim the roots and peel a layer or two of the sweet onions to prepare for sale as they look great and are very marketable.

# Storing and preserving onions

- ▶ I place onions in a single layer in a cardboard box or basket. Make sure they are not touching and the tops hang apart from each other.
- ▶ I use a dehumidifier in the room. Ideal curing temperature is 70-80°. My curing room is usually about 68 – 70° and it works fine. Turn onions over every 4-5 days for even drying and check for ones that need to be eaten ASAP. Curing takes about 1 month.
- ▶ Sweet onions do not store well. But you can caramelize them & refrigerate or freeze them.

French onion soup anyone?





# Compost Project Update

JUNEAU COMMUNITY GARDEN 2024



# What's been happening in & around the pile in 2024!

- ▶ Every plot could take 10 x 5-gallon buckets!
- ▶ I recently brought a full pickup load to Kaxdigoowu Héén Elementary School and a half a pickup load to Sayéik elementary school to use in their school gardens.
- ▶ We have spread compost on charity plots D19 and plan to spread compost on the rest of the plots during the work party Sat. Oct. 19
- ▶ We have one pile cooking and hope to get 2 more piles going before the snow comes.



# Compost Pile Etiquette & Rules

1. Take compost from the left side of the structure. As the left side empties we will shovel other piles to the left.
2. If you would like to sift the wood chips from your compost please do so on the right side of the structure. **Do not sift on top or in front of the left most pile!** That leaves extra wood chips without brewery grain for others. Please bring your buckets over to the sifter and put a wheelbarrow underneath it. Then put leftover chips on the adjacent wood chip pile on the tarp so they can be reinserted into the system.
3. Please do your best to keep the compost within the structure. If too much spills onto the rocks it creates mud and we are unable to drive up to it.
4. The amount each plot is allowed will be updated throughout the season. The amount is cumulative--It's currently 10 x 5-gallon buckets per plot.



Here's a visual to help see where to sift and place extra wood chips



# What can you do to help?

1. Turn the piles!
2. Water the piles
3. Bring seaweed
4. Clean drainage ditch



# The Pile is Cooking!



The piles need lots of water to keep the microbes happy and doing their job; takes about 15 minutes to water each pile.

There is a longer hose between B15 and C15 across the road to the compost structure.

# Frequently asked questions

- Can I add my food scraps, animal manure, garden wastes, etc. to the pile?  
No, but thanks for the offer  
rodents  
e. coli  
clubroot
- Please feel free to collect rock-free seaweed and add it to the pile on the right within the roofed area and earn service hrs.



Thanks to  
everyone who has  
helped make  
this possible!

Especially, Devil's  
Club Brewery

# Charity Plot Update and 2024 Report



**Thank You!**



# Plots, Crops & Where it went!

<b>B1</b>	<b>Carrots</b>	Harvest Fair Farmer's Market
<b>B9</b>	<b>Carrots</b>	Sayéik Gastineau Community School Harvest Meal, Food Bank; still small amount in the ground
<b>D29</b>	<b>Carrots</b>	Gruening Park Harvest Fair, Food Bank; ½ still in the ground
<b>A1</b>	<b>Potatoes</b>	Sayéik Gastineau Community School Harvest Meal, Food Bank; 1/3 still in the ground
<b>C19</b>	<b>Potatoes</b>	Gruening Park Harvest Fair, Half still in the ground
<b>D19</b>	<b>Potatoes</b>	Harvest Fair; Farmer's Market & Soup
<b>A9</b>	<b>Kale/Chard/Leeks</b>	Harvest Fair Farmer's Market, JSD Food Service, Zack Gordon Youth Center, Glory Hall
<b>A10</b>	<b>Kale</b>	Harvest Fair Farmer's Market, Glory Hall, Zack Gordon Youth Center, JSD Food Service
<b>B10</b>	<b>Garlic/Onions/Leeks</b>	Harvest Fair Farmer's Market
<b>A23</b>	<b>Carrots/Kale/Bok Choi/Kohlrabi</b>	Harvest Fair Farmer's, Glory Hall, Zack Gordon Youth Center, Discovery Southeast summer campers; Carrots still in the ground

# Rough Estimates of How much we produced

<b>Carrots</b>	<b>600-900 Lbs</b>
<b>Potatoes</b>	<b>450-550 Lbs</b>
<b>Kale</b>	<b>350-400 Lbs</b>
<b>Leeks</b>	<b>30-50 Lbs</b>
<b>Onions</b>	<b>80-100 Lbs</b>
<b>Garlic</b>	<b>200 bulbs</b>
<b>Bok Choi</b>	<b>30-40 Lbs</b>
<b>Chard</b>	<b>30-50 Lbs</b>
<b>Kohlrabi</b>	<b>15-20 Lbs</b>
<b>Rhubarb</b>	<b>20 Lbs</b>



# Charity Plots succeed because of your help!



1. Work parties. Next one - Saturday Oct. 19, 10 am
2. Carefully weed each charity plot
3. Water carrots when they are getting started
4. Weed the carrot beds
5. Assist with harvest the morning of Harvest Fair
6. Assist with remaining harvest, and wash & distribute produce for the community

# Stale Seedbed Technique



For more info:  
*"The Market Gardener"*  
By J.M. Fortier

## Steps

1. Prep your bed 100%
2. Promote weed growth
3. Time your burn to be during the cotyledon stage
4. Plant right after burning



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How do I get involved with  
the compost committee  
and/or work on the  
charity plots to earn my  
service hours?

Send me an email:

**[joelboster@yahoo.com](mailto:joelboster@yahoo.com)**

The End



Happy Harvesting & Winterizing!

