

# OCEAN GROVE COMMUNITY GARDEN NEWSLETTER

JUNE - JULY 2025



## June in the Garden

### GARDEN JOBS

- Tidy up pepper & eggplants for the winter. Remove dead leaves & trim back the stems
- Plant spring onion & leek seedlings
- Remove leaves from the strawberry plants & put them into the green bin
- Remove old parsley plants that have gone to seed
- Give fig trees a light prune & add manure or compost and a layer of mulch or straw.
- Cover asparagus with a layer of manure & straw

### SEEDS TO PLANT

Broad beans, peas or in the greenhouse - lettuce, leek, kale, spinach, rocket, watercress, coriander

### SEEDLINGS TO PLANT

Asian greens, broccoli, garlic, kale, leeks, lettuce, onions, spinach, spring onions, coriander, parsley

### PESKY PESTS

- Autumn rains have brought out the slugs & snails, combat with garlic & chilli spray, beer traps, copper tape or crushed egg shells
- Although the cabbage white butterflies have disappeared there are still active caterpillars munching our veggies. Remove them by hand - plants may take a while to recover as they are now growing more slowly



## July in the Garden

### GARDEN JOBS

- Prune fruit trees (apple, grape & pears)
- Water new plants with Seasol.
- Spray stone fruit with an Eco-fungicide to prevent peach-leaf curl and other fungal diseases.
- Keep ahead of weeds, especially grass & oxalis
- Tidy up broccoli plants - remove diseased leaves.
- Thin out the Asian greens & salad greens that have grown from seed.

### SEEDS TO PLANT

Asian greens, broad beans, lettuce, parsnip, peas, rocket, watercress, coriander, parsley or in the greenhouse - capsicum, eggplant, chilli

### SEEDLINGS TO PLANT

Asian greens, broccoli, endive, kale, lettuce, spring onions, coriander, parsley, natives



### PESKY PESTS

- Aphids can continue to breed through winter although they will slow down with the cold weather. Their presence may indicate that the plants are getting too many nutrients. Slowing down the application of liquid fertilisers may solve the problem

MORE OF VIV'S GARDEN TIPS  
AVAILABLE ON THE OCGC WEBSITE

## Organics Multipurpose Sprays

### SOAPY SPRAY

For: Aphids, Whitefly, Thrip, Caterpillars

Make: Mix 1 tspn of biodegradable dishwashing liquid with 1 tspn of cooking oil in 1L of water.

Apply: Spray over foliage of leaves particularly on the underside of leaves where pests often live.

Shelf life: 1 month



### GARLIC & CHILLI SPRAY

For: Aphids, Whitefly, Thrip, Some possums, snails & slugs

Make: Combine 6 roughly chopped garlic cloves, 10-12 thinly sliced chillies & 1 tspn of biodegradable dishwashing liquid in 1L of boiling water (use a glass jar). Soak for 24 hours then strain into a spray bottle.

Apply: Spray on foliage, repeat every 3 days.

Shelf life: 2 weeks



## Gardening Workshops with Ben Shaw

Starting May 31<sup>st</sup>, the Ocean Grove Community Garden will be hosting Gardening Workshops run by permaculture expert, Ben Shaw. Yay!

Ben has two decades' experience working in and designing edible gardens, market gardens and permaculture gardens for individuals and communities. Ben aims to share this knowledge through workshops with families and communities to make our world a healthier place to live.



Ben's first permaculture workshop will run Saturday May 31<sup>st</sup>, 10am-12pm at the Community Garden. It's a free event - no need to book, just turn up 😊 All are welcome.

**At this workshop Ben will discuss strategies we can use to improve soil including:**

- chickens
- deep litter systems
- compost bays
- compost bins
- worm farms
- green manure
- use of specific plants
- no dig gardening

If you have any ideas about activities you'd like to see happening at the garden, workshops you'd like us to facilitate or events we should hold or attend, please email us at [ogcommunitygarden@gmail.com](mailto:ogcommunitygarden@gmail.com)

## The Community Garden Needs You!

Want to get more involved at the Community Garden?

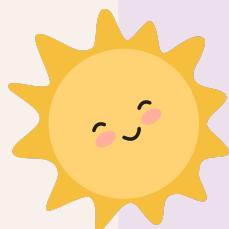
We'd love more members to take on / share / learn small roles all of which add up to making it easy to manage the garden

- Helping manage the greenhouse
- Propagating
- Fruit trees - feeding and pruning
- Mulching and worm farming
- Assisting with coordinating Farmer's market and Working bees
- Shadowing Committee roles to see if you'd like to step into one in the future?

Roles include: President, Secretary, President, Treasurer

- Or any skillset you have that you think would benefit the Community Garden

If that piques your interest, get in touch at [ogcommunitygarden@gmail.com](mailto:ogcommunitygarden@gmail.com) or have a chat with the committee at the next working bee!



## Upcoming

### JUNE

**10th**

Midweek Working Bee (10-12pm)

**21st**

Bellarine Farmer's Market

**29th**

Weekend Working Bee (10-12pm)

### JULY

**8th**

Midweek Working Bee (10am-12pm)

**19th**

Bellarine Farmer's Market

**27th**

Weekend Working Bee (10am - 12pm)



## Compost Update

The LEFT compost bay is full and working its magic to make garden gold for us to use in 2-3months.

Please use the RIGHT compost bay, ensuring materials are chopped up - the smaller they are the quicker they will compost! A friendly reminder to keep citrus & onion out of the compost and only add finely crushed eggshells.

