



Laguna Woods Village®

THE GARDEN CENTER

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER



PLANT A WINTER GARDEN NOW

Wanting to grow winter vegetables in your garden plot? Although semi-drought conditions in Laguna Woods Village could cause some water usage restrictions, a bountiful garden is possible.

Many vegetables that thrive with little irrigation will grow faster and be ready for harvesting sooner. In fact, our list of green, root and staple vegetables grow so quickly that—if planted at different intervals—a harvest can be had several times during the season!



- ARUGULA
- BEETS
- CARROTS
- BOK CHOY
- CELERY
- BROCCOLI
- BRUSSELS SPROUTS
- CABBAGE
- CAULIFLOWER
- COLLARD GREENS
- GARLIC
- KALE
- KOHLRABI
- MUSTARD
- ONIONS
- PEAS
- POTATOES
- RADISHES
- SPINACH
- SWISS CHARD
- TURNIPS

LET'S TALK TOOLS

Among the benefits of leasing a garden or tree plot at the Garden Centers are many “perks,” including free tools. Every gardener is expected to follow common-courtesy tool-use rules:

- Clean mud, plant material, etc., from the tool
- Return tools to their original storage shed.
- Organize and hang tools in the storage shed.
- Do not remove tools from the Garden Center.
- Do not “hoard” tools; take only the tools you need to work your plot.
- Do not leave wheelbarrows at trash containers—especially if they are full. It is your responsibility to empty and return them to a storage shed.
- Do not leave wheelbarrows in pathways (full or empty).
- Empty the contents of a wheelbarrow into the proper trash bin (bins are all clearly marked).
- Return broken wheelbarrows to a storage shed and advise staff.



KEEP RODENTS OUT OF GARDENS

Clusters of fruit and or vegetables that have not been harvested spell trouble for gardeners trying to prevent rodent infestation. If your plants have stopped producing, clear them from your plot and dispose of them. Any hanging or ground-level produce is a perfect invitation for rodents. Also, remove other perfect rodent havens—debris, wood and clutter.

“The glory of gardening: Hands in the dirt, head in the sun, heart with nature.”

—Alfred Austin



GET A JUMP ON WEED-FREE PLOTS

Now is a good time to perform weed control to prepare for the fall/winter planting cycle—fall and winter rains ultimately mean weeds! Last season was one of the worst for weeds we’ve seen—this coming season could be just as bad. The more weeding you do today to prevent weeds in the future will be time well spent.



VOLUNTEER STUDENTS PARTNER WITH GARDENERS

In October, a hardy group of student volunteers from Tesoro High School in Rancho Santa Margarita helped numerous plot holders at Garden Center 1 with weeding, cleaning, clearing plots and picking fruit and produce.

The students hope to return to our gardens once a month to help with various projects; future newsletters will announce times and dates for these visits.



Don't Forget...

- **Tidy** around the mulch bins after filling your wheelbarrows.
- **Keep** the tool sheds clean with a little sweeping at the day's end.
- **Use** trash bins provided for all personal trash.
- **Use** the proper, clearly marked trash containers for “green” and “trash” disposal.
- **Do not** leave trash on chairs or picnic tables in common areas.
- **Advise** staff of restroom plumbing problems or concerns about facility cleanliness.
- **Drive** slowly in all Garden Center parking lots and driveways (10 mph) and be aware of pedestrians at all times.

HOLIDAY HOURS

THE GARDEN CENTER OFFICE AT GARDEN CENTER 2 IS CLOSED

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1