



NEW GLEANING ASSISTANCE

Volunteers have teamed up to offer assistance with harvesting fruit or vegetables that plot holders know will go to waste. Harvested produce will be donated to Village residents who may not have access to organic produce.



To request gleaning assistance, call the Garden Center office at **949-268-2387**. Volunteers will be notified and contact the gardener to coordinate harvesting. All gardeners requesting assistance will be expected to be present during gleaning to direct how much is to be harvested.

REMINDERS

With mosquitoes starting to return in force to our outdoor spaces and your gardens, consider planting mosquito-repelling plants. **Check out 19 plants that work to repel mosquitoes in your backyard** for more information.

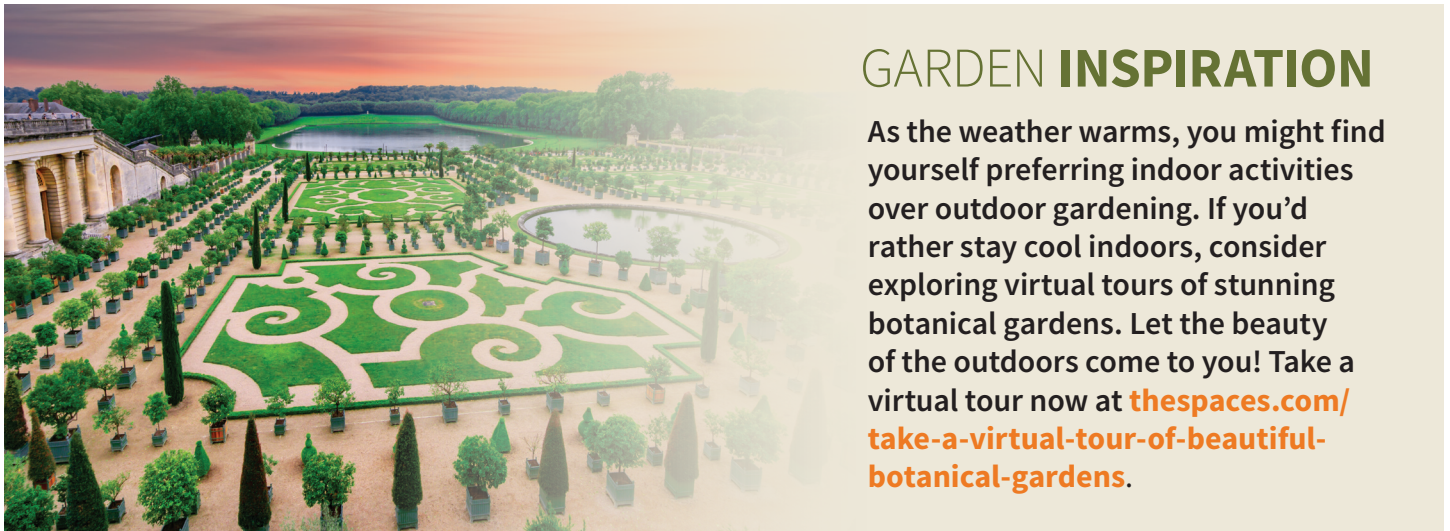
Also, kindly return any borrowed items such as, tools, wagons and wheelbarrows to the location where you found them. Garden Center tools left in individual locked plots may result in lock removal to return tools housed within.

Proper trash disposal remains an ongoing concern. Do your part to correctly dispose of items in the appropriate bins. Trash will not be picked up from bins containing incorrect items. Thank you for helping to maintain a clean and organized center.



GARDEN INSPIRATION

As the weather warms, you might find yourself preferring indoor activities over outdoor gardening. If you'd rather stay cool indoors, consider exploring virtual tours of stunning botanical gardens. Let the beauty of the outdoors come to you! Take a virtual tour now at thespaces.com/take-a-virtual-tour-of-beautiful-botanical-gardens.



THREE-MONTH SOCAL PLANTING

Check out the guidelines below for what to plant for May, June and July.

MAY

Plant in the ground: All basil, melons and squash (including cucumbers, and all tomatoes, eggplants and peppers); eggplant; green and yellow beans; and all dried beans. Corn too, if you have room.

Plant in containers: Peppers, eggplants and basil are OK to start, but it's getting late.

JUNE

Plant in the ground: All the above, but it's getting late... you can still get a crop, but it will be cut shorter by any early cool weather. The last of the corn can go in early in the month.

Plant in containers: After starting pumpkin seeds, *take a nap.*

JULY

Plant in the ground: Do so only out of necessity—extreme necessity.

Plant in containers: *Continue napping!*



A Note From Tom McCray

Happy spring! I hope everyone is doing well and looking forward to warmer weather on the horizon. With the ground drying and garden conditions improving, it's time to tend to your garden plot and take care of any undesirable plants that may have sprouted during the winter months.



NEW MAINTENANCE COMPANY

We are pleased to introduce MCT as the new vendor responsible for managing garden center public areas. MCT, an approved vendor, is known for their expertise in landscaping and assisting with various Village projects. You may notice MCT staff working on tasks such as pathway maintenance, plumbing or other issues. As a reminder, if you encounter any non-emergency maintenance issues, please call the Garden Center office at **949-268-2387** or email gardencenters@vmsinc.org.

This season offers the perfect opportunity to rejuvenate our gardens with new plantings and to restore the overall beauty of the center. Let's remember that each gardener must keep their plot clean and free of unsightly items, including weeds. Let's work together to create and maintain beautiful, thriving gardens for all to enjoy!