

Yeronga Community Gardens



Members and Friends Newsletter February 2022

Welcome to 2022 at Yeronga Community Gardens

Cnr. Taunton & Oakwood Streets (Yeronga SHS Sports Grounds entrance)

SOW, GROW, CONNECT

Now that Covid restrictions are easing, and the weather is starting to cool off, we're fully open again and getting ready for the 2022 March – October 'growing season'. Community gardening is from 3.00pm until 5.30pm on Sunday afternoons and members can also garden any time on Saturdays and Sundays and at other times by arrangement. Individual plots are now available for hire (see below).

What's happening at the Community Gardens now?

As from last weekend, we are preparing beds for annual early and late cool weather planting and sowing. While the rain has been very welcome, it has also washed out some of the nutrients from the soil. To counter this, we're currently adding compost (from the Community Hubs) and other organic nutrients to the larger plots and the raised gardens. These beds and gardens will be ready for planting and seeding from the middle of March. For late planting in May and June we'll clear areas and plant fast growing green manure to be dug in with more compost and nutrients in some 6-8 weeks' time.

Considering the mild conditions ahead, March is a great time for getting a wide range of veggies in the ground. We'll be setting basic staples such as tomatoes, capsicums and eggplants; lettuce; radish; carrot, beetroot, silverbeet; beans, peas, cucumber and zucchini; bok-choy, onions, garlic, varieties of sweet potato, more 'exotic' food plants as available, and of course herbs, perennial food plants, chillies,

If you want to try broad beans, parsnips or cauliflower, you need to get them in now for winter (good luck with them ...). Might also be a good time to plant rosellas and strawberry runners

Individual plots now available

New arrangements made with the School and Yeronga Community Centre mean that we can now offer individual plots within the Gardens as well as our existing community plots. Members can use their plots for growing their own choice of plants, vegetables, and flowers. Individual plots are offered on a lease basis. It might be a good idea to get in while there are still individual plots available – if you want to follow up on this please get in touch (contacts below) or call in on any Sunday afternoon.

How can you help?

We will need help sourcing seeds, seedlings, plants and cuttings. If you are bringing on your own seedlings or propagating plants at home, and have any you can spare, we'd love to have them.

Also, if you have seeds left over from your own earlier plantings, unwanted seeds, or even out of date seeds that we could use for green manure, please drop them in or let us know so that we can pick them up.

And of course, we look forward to you spending some time with us at the Gardens! Come along when you can – we don't expect you to turn up every weekend. If you'd like to support the Gardens in other ways, we are looking for new people to join our steering group to help out with garden management plans, grant writing, secretary's role, social media and communications (a newsletter editor!), and other things including helping out with the Indigenous food garden, Aussie bees, fruit trees/orchard, seed bank, our community compost hubs there's surely something here you'd like to get involved with (and if not, let us know other ideas you like to try).

Getting in touch

If there's something mentioned in this newsletter that you would like to be involved with, or you would just like to help, please get in touch: **email** (preferred) <yerongacommunitygardens@outlook.com>; **text** to 0416159375; **Facebook**: <www.facebook.com/groups/yerongacommunitygardens>; 'phone: **Yeronga Community Centre** on 07 3848 2285, or simply **call in to the Gardens on a Sunday afternoon** between 3.00pm and 5.30pm.

SOW, GROW, CONNECT – We look forward to meeting you at Yeronga Community Gardens soon