

April Newsletter



Start of Season:

- All garden plots must be cultivated by June 1st! Garden plots not cultivated by this date are subject to being reclaimed by the Town and the garden reassigned.
- Water is turned on for the season! Any leaks in the irrigation system can be reported to Amanda Lerch at alersch@huntingtonny.gov Please attach a digital photo to your email showing the damage/leaking pipe, it will be helpful in correcting the issue.

Seed Libraries:

If you have a library card, you may be eligible for free seeds! Libraries participating in the seed library program include:

- Cold Spring Harbor Public Library
- Elwood Public Library
- Half Hollow Hills Community Library
- Harborfields Library
- Northport East-Northport Public Library
- South Huntington Public Library



Garden Plots Available!

There are still some plots available for growing at the Organic Garden this year! Please tell a friend, neighbor, or family member that might be interested to visit www.TOHEWM.com to apply online!



Spring Clean Up!

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

Please bring your garden tools and gloves for some volunteer work to clean up the Kubecka Garden on:

- Tuesday, April 9th at 10:00 am
- Wednesday, April 10th at 10:00 am
- Wednesday, April 17th at 10:00 am
- Thursday, April 18th at 10:00 am

Celebrating Earth Day!

The Town will host its annual Earth Day event on **Sunday, April 21st from 10am to 2pm at Manor Farm Park, 210 Manor Rd in Huntington**. There will be free seed plantings and tree saplings, a free raffle which includes electric lawn care equipment, composting, English Ivy removal, beekeeping demonstrations and more!

May Newsletter



Transplanting Tips:

- If you haven't transplanted your potted vegetables into the ground, now is the time! Seedlings should ideally have 1-4 sets of true leaves before transplanting.
- Hardening off plants is an important step not to miss before moving your indoor seedlings outside. Small doses of sunshine and cold weather will help them acclimate to the outdoors.
- During this process, if your plants experience shock (wilting, yellowing or curling of leaves) make sure to water well and they should perk back up in a few days.



Organic Practices for Pest Control:

- Companion planting involves growing certain plants together to maximize their benefits and deter pests. This works because some plants naturally repel bugs while others attract beneficial insects.
- Insecticidal soap spray:
2.5 tbsp. liquid dish soap
2.5 tbsp. of vegetable oil
1 gal. of warm water.



Mix together and spray on plants affected by unwanted insects.

- Weed killer:
1 gal. white vinegar
1 tbsp. dish soap
1 cup of salt

Mix together and spray on weeds.

Plant Swap:

Suffolk Alliance for Pollinators is a coalition of local groups making Suffolk County a greener pollinator corridor through good gardening practices. They are hosting a plant swap Tuesday, May 21st from 6:00pm -8:00pm at the Huntington Public Library located at 338 Main Street, Huntington. Bring extra plants in a labeled pot to swap!

Volunteer Clean Up Days!

Please bring your garden tools and gloves for some volunteer work to clean up the Kubecka Garden on:

Tuesday, June 4th at 10:00 am
Thursday, June 6th at 10:00 am
Friday, June 7th at 10:00 am

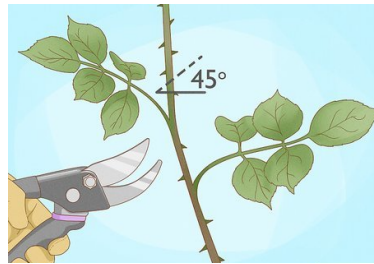
Please meet at the entrance of the garden at the start time and RSVP to alerch@huntingtonny.gov.

June Newsletter



Gardening Tips:

- Weed regularly to keep the task easy and manageable.
- Pinching off the ends of certain herbs and plants can promote bushier growth and a greater yield.
- Deadhead flowers to promote a second bloom. This can be done by cutting the spent flower head right above the next visible bud or leaf node.



What Can I Plant Now?

- Warm season crops can be directly sowed into the ground now. These include:
 - Sunflowers
 - Nasturtiums
 - Marigolds
 - Basil
 - Beans
 - Summer Squash
 - Cucumbers
 - Peas



Want to Donate Your Extra Vegetables?

Dedicated volunteers have coordinated a schedule to pick up vegetable donations from the covered sharing table at the Soergel Garden and deliver them to local food banks in Huntington:

June 20th 1:00pm

June 27th 1:00 pm

July 4th 1:00 pm

July 11th 1:00 pm

If you would like to make donations outside these times and can not drop it off at a local food pantry, feel free to leave it at the sharing table and contact Dave at 631-504-7435.

Please fill out the donation log book!



August Newsletter



Growing Healthy Plants:

- August is the time of year when the gardens are exploding with abundance!
- Weed regularly to keep the task easy and manageable.
- Removing weeds allows your plants to receive more water and nutrients, allowing them to become stronger and more fruitful. It also eliminates hiding spots for pesky insects, and rodents to hide.
- Be on the look out of harmful insects that can negatively affect your plants such as Mexican bean beetle, harlequin beetle, squash bug, aphids, etc. Organic methods of removal include neem oil and manual removal by hand.

Watch out for these plants:

- **Porcelain Berry:** an aggressive vine. Remove vines and berries before seeds mature. Roots must be removed in its entirety.
- **Stinging Nettle:** Handle with caution! Its leaves have fine hairs that can cause an itchy rash or skin irritation.



Insect Identification:



Harlequin beetle



Squash Bug



Mexican Bean Beetle



Aphids



Lady Bug



Milkweed Bug

October Newsletter



Reminders!

- Water service at the garden will cease on Nov. 1st.
- On December 1st, garden gates will be locked for the season and no entry is permitted. Garden plots should be cleaned out and all personal property removed. The Town reserves the right to discard of any property left behind.



October in the Garden:

- Now is a great time to plant garlic, shallots, walking onions, and all spring-flowering bulbs!
- Cut and dry or freeze any remaining herbs for use at a later time.

Seed Saving 101:

- Start with easy crops like peas, beans, lettuce, and tomatoes.
- Seed maturity is important. Immature seeds will not store well or germinate.
- Dry seeds 1-3 weeks before storing in paper envelopes. Plastic can retain moisture and lead to rot.



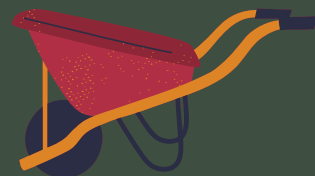
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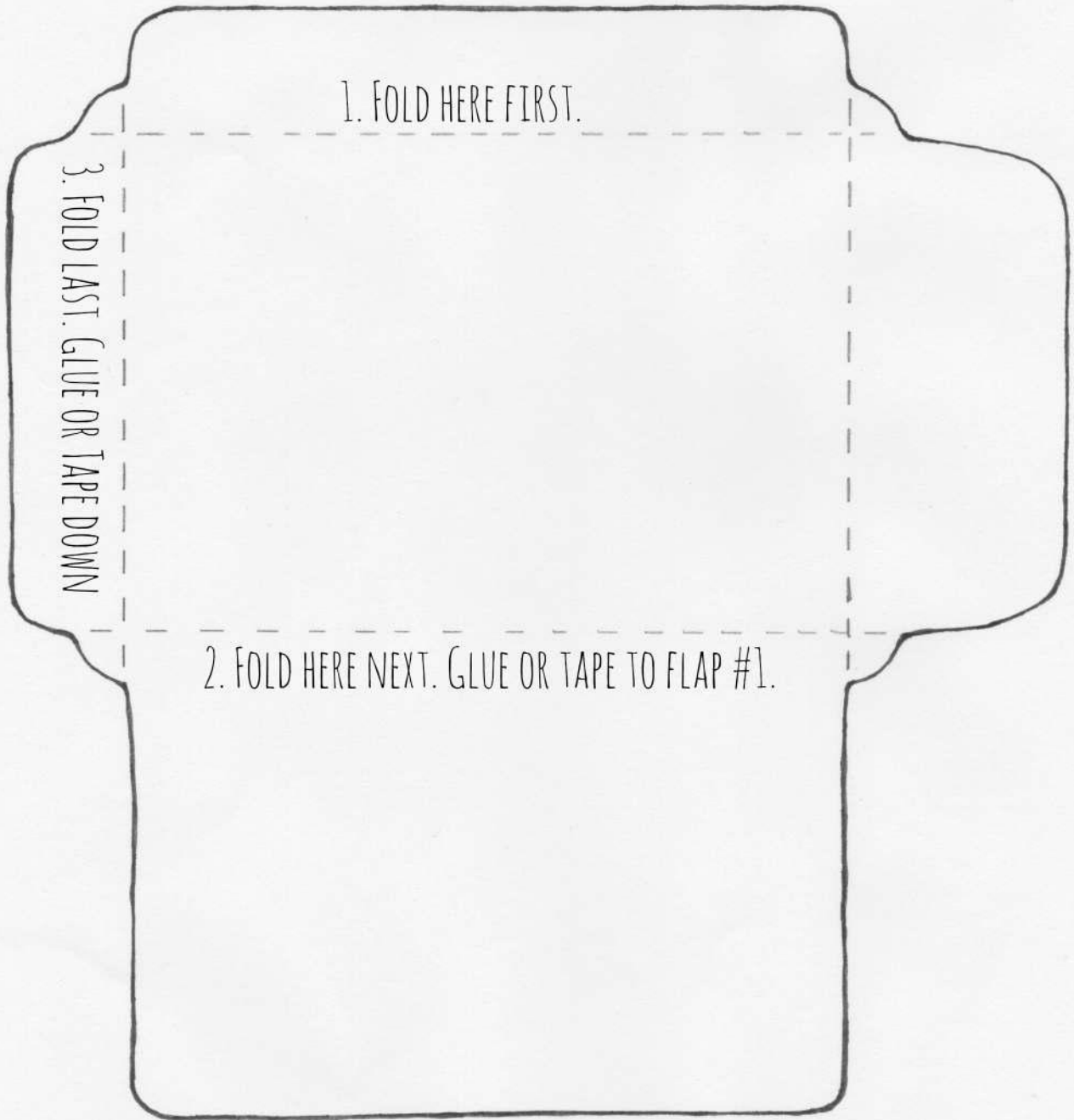
Please bring your garden tools and gloves for some volunteer work to clean up the Kubecka Garden on:

Saturday, Oct. 12th 9:00 AM-11:00 AM
Tuesday, Oct. 15th 9:00 AM- 11:00 AM
Wednesday, Oct. 16th 9:00 AM-11:00 AM
Tuesday, Oct. 22nd 9:00 AM_11:00 AM
Wednesday, Oct. 23rd 9:00 AM- 11:00 AM
Saturday, Oct. 26th 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Community Service Available! Please meet at the entrance of the garden at the start time. RSVP to Amanda Lerch at alerch@huntingtonny.gov



Seed Packet Template



November Newsletter



Important Dates to Remember!

- **December 1st:** Garden gates will be locked for the season and no entry is permitted. Garden plots should be cleaned out and all personal property removed. The Town reserves the right to discard of any property left behind.
- **February 1st:** You will receive a renewal email for your current plot. Renewal applications must be submitted no later than March 1st.
- **March 1st:** Deadline for renewal applications.

1,800 lbs. of Produce Donated to Charity:

- Thank you to our members of the Soergel Garden for your gracious donation of 1,800 lbs. of fresh vegetables and produce to local food pantries in the 2024 season. Together we can bring a smile to someone's face through healthy meals and help fight hunger on L.I.

Happy Holidays!

- Wishing everyone a very happy holiday season and Happy Thanksgiving. Give thanks "for friends as unpretentious as cabbages, as subtle as summer squash as persistent as parsley, as delightful as dill, as endless as zucchini and who — like parsnips — can be counted on to see you through the long winter". (Jan Nelson)



Newest Additions to the Garden:



Thank you to Scout Michael Secko for our newest addition to the garden: a welcome kiosk to display garden information, rules, maps, newsletters, etc. Your hard work is appreciated by all.



Also a special thank you to CCE Master Gardeners Caitlynn Schare, Edith Updike and all the volunteers that helped in clearing overgrowth and creating a beautiful native plant garden that will bloom into life in the spring.