

Bock Community Garden News & Information

August, 2025



Photo Credit: Christine Milovani

What's Happening?

Shed Improvements in Process

Our Grounds Coordinators, David and Christine, have been working hard on cleaning and organizing the main tool shed this summer. This project will be nearing completion in early August.

The goal has been to improve the organization of the shed for easy access during the gardening season and also have a plan for winter storage. We had a problem with mice and their droppings which made the shed less safe. David cleaned with a HEPA vacuum and Christine sprayed an enzyme solution to neutralize smells. We are regularly sweeping the floor, and next year there will be volunteer task assignments available to support keeping the shed clean.



There are storage totes placed on shelves with wheels with items inside to be labeled clearly on each tote. We are adding wall storage with peg board and small hooks for regularly used smaller tools and some wall hooks for larger tools. We will have more photos to share in the next newsletter.

You will also notice two green garden waste cans in the garden. These are currently used by Grounds, Work Groups and Work Teams to more easily transport larger batches of yard waste to the compost facility.

Food Pantry Donations

BCG is committed to engaging with the community. In addition to opening our garden to the public, we work with the Middleton Way Forward Food Pantry to distribute produce from a dedicated garden plot as well as donations by BCG gardeners. [Pantry Donations Wish List](#).

Donations may be placed in the coolers or the dedicated wagon on the porch. **Please have produce in the cooler / wagon on Saturday and Sunday by 5:00 pm.**

All produce is delivered on Monday morning and is distributed to families in need. Help us reach our goal of 600 pounds this season.



Fence Updates

The fence is getting older and we have been repairing it over the years. We are noticing some breaks in the chicken wire and have been working on some temporary patches, until we determine a long term fence replacement solution. If you notice a hole in the fence, please alert the Grounds Coordinators.

[Orchard Map](#) and Updates

Keep a look out on the chalk board and bulletin board for notification of ripe fruit. Peaches are ripening! Remember, please take a small amount that can be used immediately, so that many of us may enjoy the fruit.

Recruiting Work Group Leaders:

We are recruiting seasoned gardeners to lead, or support our work groups as a backup or co-leader. All volunteer leaders would receive credit for 3 hours per work group. Sign up for two and you've completed your hours for the year! All work will be thoroughly explained before each session so you know exactly what your teams' tasks will be that day! Email us at bockgarden@gmail.com if you are interested.

Importance of Volunteer Hours at BCG

Our garden takes a lot of work to maintain. We have many ways for you to reach your 6 hours per plot commitment to remain a "gardener-in-good standing." We are past the halfway mark of the growing season and there are several plots who have yet to begin their volunteer work. See the work sessions below for August work group sign up dates or contact us to get an individual work assignment from the Grounds Coordinators.

City of Middleton Cancellation of Activity

Guidelines:

Please note the following [City policy](#) for cancellation of work groups.

August Calendar:

August 10 - 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Show and Share - social event hosted by Fatu and Charlie

Join us for our next Show & Share on August 10th from 4:30 to 5:30 PM, (weather permitting). We'll do walking tours of each other's gardens, talk about what is/isn't working, vent about those pesky bunnies, and share any produce we may have to share with each other. Any produce leftover from the Show & Share that people do not wish to take home can be placed in the donation bins by the end of our session. It will be warm, so please dress appropriately and bring a water bottle!

Upcoming Work Groups: August 3, 12, 23

Spots are available for August

All the work groups are listed for the season in SignUp Genius. Additional work groups or spots may be added through the season, so keep checking for opportunities to support the garden.

Register for work groups using the [SignUp Genius](#) link.

Those who wish to work independently for your 6 volunteer hours need to contact us at bockgarden@gmail.com to get your assignment.

You are required to work 6 hours per plot for the season. Gardeners who complete their work hours by the end of the season are considered "gardeners in good standing" and are welcome to return the next year.

August 14 - 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

[BCG Board Zoom Board Meeting](#)

All welcome to attend.

Good Neighbor Garden Team

At BCG, we realize that "life happens" and we are here to help. If you find that you need assistance with your plot for a limited time period (up to 2 weeks), please fill out this [Good Neighbor Request Form](#) and email to nkieraldo@gmail.com. Our goal is to help you get back on your feet so that you can continue with successful results.

Community Reminders:

- Close the gates behind you.
- Tick season! Please check for ticks when you leave the garden.
- Follow the expectations and [rules of the garden](#).
- Stay on top of the weeds in your gardens and path and take your weeds to the compost facility.
- Clean your tools with sand and brush, and immediately place them properly back on the tool rack.
- Remember to return yellow buckets to the tool shed area.
- Share the hose, turn off the hose at the spigot. Remember to turn the hose all the way off, and if there is a leak let us know.
- Return the hose back immediately and place the hose on the designated hose rack if there is one, and in a "figure-8" on the ground if there is not a hose rack.

Gardening Best Practices

Garden Assessments

Garden Assessments occur twice a month as a way to communicate with you things in advance of them becoming a problem. Our next assessments will be on **August 11 and 25**. You can avoid a notice by maintaining plot boundaries and pulling your weeds. See more below.

Maintaining Plot Boundaries

A gentle reminder that all of your plants, hardware and fencing need to be contained within your plot boundaries (inside the plot posts). Plants are growing fast with all of the recent rain, and there are a lot of plants growing into the pathways. Please be mindful of your plot boundaries and community pathways. Plants that are growing into community pathways may be removed by a work group.

Pulling weeds

Continue to be mindful of pulling weeds, especially thistle, bindweed, purslane and grasses that may be growing in your plots and pathways. Every little bit helps, so if you are in the garden and see a weed in a pathway, feel free to remove it.

Garden Photo



Photo Credit: Christine Milovani



Work Session Sign Up link. Click on icon to sign up for an upcoming 2 hour work session. Six hours per plot is required for the garden season.



Click on Middleton icon for BCG Website. Find garden map, rules and regulations, registration information and more.

- Questions? Comments?
- Do you have some garden photos to share?
- Is there something you want to contribute for the newsletter?

Email us at: Bockgarden@gmail.com

Happy Gardening!