

Bock Community Garden News & Information

September, 2025



Photo Credit: Christine Milovani

What's Happening? Garden Committee Resignations

Lesley - In early August, Lesley sent an email to the Volunteer Committee that she was resigning for personal reasons. She has been a stalwart of BCG for many years filling into a variety of roles and responsibilities beyond her official title of Registrar. Her valuable contributions allowed the garden to transition both from the sudden death of Emil Havey and the 2020 pandemic. We are all gardening today thanks to her unwavering committee to keep the garden going. On behalf of all of us at BCG, we owe her our gratitude and thank you!



[Read Lesley's Message](#)

Mary - Mary L-K has also resigned from the garden board in August. She will still be serving the garden as one of our valued Master Gardeners. Thank you, Mary, for always looking out for our gardeners' safety.

BCG Leadership through November 2025

In an effort to keep functioning until the end of the growing season and to keep the work toward transitioning toward the guidance and leadership of the Middleton Parks Department, the Volunteer Committee voted on August 14 to put in place the following shared-leadership positions:

Committee Chair: Nancy K.
Operations Chair: Christine M.
Garden Manager: David H.

Shared Leadership Responsibilities

- o Leadership positions support daily management, operations and priorities of BCG
- o Shared leadership structure reduces leadership burden on one person, and includes two co-chairs and the Garden Manager
- o Make timely operational decisions together, independently, and with the City of Middleton

These positions are joined presently by the current committee membership through the month of November. Together, we will work toward these main goals:

- Continue to be good stewards of this land by keeping the garden healthy and well-maintained
- Create a plan for end-of-year duties and clean-up
- Continue to collaborate with the City of Middleton Parks Department to create our future plan under their stewardship

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. The third Peach tree is ripening! Remember, please take a small amount that can be used immediately, so that many of us may enjoy the fruit.

City of Middleton Cancellation of Activity Guidelines:

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

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.

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." See the work sessions below for September work group sign up dates or contact us to get an individual work assignment from the Grounds Coordinators.

September Calendar:

Upcoming Work Groups: September 9, 14, 27

****Spots are available for September****

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. Now is the time to get your hours completed by the end of October. If, for some reason, the sessions are all filled-up in SignUP Genius, come and show up anyway. We can always find ways to put you to work!

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.

September 11 - 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

[BCG Board Zoom Board Meeting](#)

All welcome to attend.

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 once a month until the end of the growing season. It is meant to be a way to communicate with you issues in advance of them becoming a problem. Our next assessments will be on **September 9, October 5 and November 1. All plots are to be winter-ready by 3:00 pm October 31.** 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: Nancy K.



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!