



The angst of spring gardeners

#### **GARDENS IN PT**

**Blessings** (Barbara & MaryBeth)

**Brian's** (Amber, Lindsay)

**FairWinds** (Gayle & Milly)

**PT High School** (Doug)

**PT Co-Op** (Kathy)

**Quimper Grange** (Barbara & MaryBeth)

**Salish Elementary** (Neil)

#### **GARDENS IN CHIMACUM**

**Goosefoot** (Lex H)

#### **GARDENS IN PORT HADLOCK**

**Boat School** (Mary)

**Swan** (Suzanne)

### **BULK AMENDMENT & MATERIALS PURCHASES**

The GComm and Finance teams met this week to review how we handle bulk amendment and materials purchases. The [Local Vendor Discounts](#) spreadsheet has been updated with a new column called “*GM process for using discount,*” which includes basic instructions on how to approach vendors to receive discounts.

We also now have FBG name tags available to help identify ourselves in the community—feel free to use one when talking with vendors to add a little extra credibility.

We'll go over this in more detail at the April 23 Grower Meeting, and name tags will be available for GMs there. If you need help with a purchase, reach out to the Garden Committee or email [FBGGardenCoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:FBGGardenCoordinator@gmail.com).

### **HARVEST REPORTING**

Last year, the Stats team started the switch to collecting harvest data as monthly totals instead of daily entries. This has made data entry much simpler without affecting reporting. Most gardens have already made the switch (especially larger gardens), with just a few still using the daily harvest photo method.

Many GMs track weekly harvests in a spreadsheet that automatically totals everything at the end of the month. If your garden has more than 5–6 items per harvest cycle, consider switching to the monthly totals method. We’re happy to help you find a system that works for you or one of your tech-savvy volunteers.

We can talk more about this at the April 23 Grower Meeting.

### TRANSITIONING AWAY FROM PAPER INTAKE FORMS

With help from Amber Langley, we’re getting more comfortable using Google Workspace—including some of its built-in features—and are starting to take a closer look at processes that involve multiple paperwork handoffs.

A good example is volunteer registration. Right now, new volunteers fill out a three-part paper form, which then gets passed from the Garden Manager to the Garden Committee for scanning and uploading, and then to the Secretary for filing.

This process takes a lot of time and effort, especially when we have the option to collect information electronically and cut out some of those extra steps. That said, we know not everyone prefers digital tools, so we’ll continue to offer a paper collection form, that will get data entered into the digital system, for those who want them.

We’ll start by rolling out electronic volunteer registration. As part of this, all current volunteers will need to re-register using the new online form. We know that’s a bit of an ask, but it will help get everything in one place and make things smoother moving forward.





We’ll discuss this transition at the Grower Meeting on April 23 at 4pm via Zoom.

**Thanks Everyone!**

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### RESOURCES

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Grower Meeting	3rd Thursday of each Month (for now) Next meeting April 23, 4-5:30 pm Zoom
Back issues of Sproutin’ Off	<a href="#">Sproutin’ Off</a>
FBG Seed Bank	<a href="#">FBG Seeds - ALL SEEDS</a>  To coordinate pickup, contact:  Mary Beth Haralovich <a href="mailto:mbandjji@gmail.com">mbandjji@gmail.com</a>  (520) 730-6439
Seed Propagation Support	Mado Most  <a href="mailto:MadoMost@gmail.com">MadoMost@gmail.com</a>  (310) 994-5834

Pest & Disease Management	Dianna's Garden Consulting  <a href="mailto:1wildaster@gmail.com">1wildaster@gmail.com</a>  360-643-0090 OR Jefferson County Master Gardeners <a href="#">Ask a Master Gardener Contact Page</a>
Stored Soil Amendments	<a href="#">Stored Soil Amendments and Location</a>
Bagged Amendment Request	Contact either: <a href="mailto:FBGGardenCoordinator@gmail.com">FBGGardenCoordinator@gmail.com</a> OR <a href="mailto:andrewsnk76@gmail.com">andrewsnk76@gmail.com</a>
Local Vendor Discounts	<a href="#">Local Vendor Discounts</a>
Loose Bulk Amendment Delivery Support	Mark Paxton  <a href="mailto:mark.alphabetco@gmail.com">mark.alphabetco@gmail.com</a>  (360) 390-3001
Secret Gardens Northwest for Loose Bulk Amendments	 (360) 379-3900
Volunteers & Work Party Request	Mark Paxton  <a href="mailto:mark.alphabetco@gmail.com">mark.alphabetco@gmail.com</a>  (360) 390-3001

*Respectfully Submitted by the Garden Committee*