

Completed prior to the September 14th Board meeting

1. Met with Greg Stewart Manager of Engineering for AACPS on August 12th at the cottage. Paul, Barbara and I attended the meeting. He said we are to be held to commercial construction standards. Paul is going to work on changes.
2. Purchase of storage container was made and is now at the farm to store donations. (we need to be cautious about what we accept since a 20 ft container will fill up very fast).
3. Barbara was to contact BGE about repairing power line knocked down by a tree.

September 2011 GFPS Garden Meeting Notes

Hurricane Irene took its toll on the remainder of the plants in the garden. The tomatoes, peppers and sunflowers got bent from the wind, the deer have found the garden and have eaten a large portion of many of the tomato plants and string beans.

Roy Benner has donated a great wealth of time, sweat and money to clearing the weeds and overgrowth of the garden area, trail, and surroundings. I have since put down all the newspaper and straw I had; it covered an area of 15x20 but we will need much more of each.

We need help with installation of the fence and rototilling in the spring. We also need electricity and a definite knowledge on if the well works and/or what it needs to work. Without this knowledge and timeline no one is interested in renting plots, it is just more work than most people want to put forth.

With most of the plants on their way out, water is less of an urgency (probably why we have so much of it now :-)) A gutter and more rain barrels will offset heavy use of the well for the next season. If it is not realistic to open a BGE account and reconnect the wires for service a generator will be needed. The well can be pumped into additional rain barrels so a generator does not have to be onsite 24/7.

Roy also did a tentative measurement and layout of the designated garden area and determined 76 10x10 plots will be available for rent in the spring. If all plots are rented the garden can bring in \$1900 - \$3800 depending on member status of plot renter. It is not realistic to expect all 76 plots to be rented the first year. Depending on the amount of renters we will also have a community plot to donate food from and/or a children's garden.

Rules and guidelines were agreed on and are below.

Our first event to raise awareness, fund and materials will be in the early spring. It will be a garden shower to obtain donated tools and materials for plot renters.

The grant Kim Norris and I were working on fell through because we didn't meet some of the criteria they were asking for. They were looking for urban gardens with minorities.

The block party made \$720 for GFPS!! I still have all the display materials.

I designed and printed Halloween Ball tickets, they cost \$27.55

The next meeting for those interested in the garden will be on or around September 17 to discuss the best method of amending the soil for the spring.

Goshen Farm Community Garden Rules and Guidelines

Ensuring enjoyable gardening experience for all of the garden community is the primary goal of these rules and responsibilities. For this reason, observe the rules of the garden, and be a good neighbor. The garden should be a safe place for the community, children, and other gardeners. Do not bring anything that will compromise the safety of the garden.

Plots are 10'x10'

GFCCG supplies annual tilling, fencing, water supply, compost, and a supportive community environment.

Annual rental rate: \$25 per plot for GFPS member; \$50 for non-members

Each person must apply each year for a plot but returning gardeners will be given first preference and permitted to keep the same plot if they wish. The number of plots per gardener may be limited according to demand.

Road access to the garden area will be available (to be determined)

Sign up for your plot at getdirtyeatfresh@gmail.com.

Plot Rules

Our plot rules are grounded on a simple concept: Be a good neighbor.

If you tend your plots well, weed them regularly and completely (including the pathway at your plot's edge) and harvested, you'll make an invaluable contribution to the community, which is at the heart of our garden.

Welcome!

General Requirements

1. Annual plot rental fees must be paid at the time of registration.
2. There is no smoking in the gardens or parking area.
3. No pets are allowed in the garden.
4. Please monitor small children in the garden, so that they do not damage neighbors' plots.
5. Each renter is required to contribute 6 hours of work over the year to benefit the Community Garden and Goshen Farm.

Plot Design

1. Plant tall crops where they will not cast shade upon neighboring plots. If you are unsure of the direction of shade please ask others..
2. Place structures (trellises, hoops, fences, supports) at least one foot inside plot edges.
3. Do not use wood that is pressure-treated, painted, or treated in any other way.

Plot Maintenance

1. Plots need to be well-tended throughout the season, including weeding and harvesting of vegetables.
2. Paths between plots should be kept open and accessible to all.
3. Commonly used acceptable mulches include straw, hay, black plastic, or weed barrier mats, newspaper (not glossy, and covered with an organic mulch), seaweed, grass clippings (not chemically treated), and other organic mulches. Black plastic and weed barrier mats must be entirely removed from the property at the end of the season.
4. Second plots become available on or after TBD.
5. All garden plots must be cleared by TBD.

Acceptable / Unacceptable Products

To maintain the organic integrity of the Goshen Farm Community Garden, do not use products that are listed in the "Unacceptable" column below:

Acceptable

- * BT, M Track, MVP
- * NEEM
- * Insecticidal soaps
- * Pyrethrum
- * Summer Oil
- * Seaweed/fish preparations
- * Garlic, hot pepper, "kitchen" mixes
- * PRO GRO
- * Diatomaceous earth
- * Sulfur
- * Wood ash
- * Manures (non carnivorous)

* Rock powders (lime, rock phosphate, greensand, granite dust) Liquids may be applied by hand-held trigger spray bottle only

Unacceptable

- * Miracle Gro, Miracid, Peters, etc
- * 5-10-5, 5-10-10 and variations
- * Rotenone
- * Sevin
- * Diazonin
- * Malathion
- * Methoxychlor
- * Commercial slug bait
- * Sabadilla
- * Chemical formulations

If you want to use a product that is not on either list, but you're unsure about it, please ask the Plot Coordinator.

Membership

I'm back on winter schedule and not able to attend any more meetings till January.

Here's my latest membership numbers:

48 residents: 38 households, 9 individuals

18 non-residents: 12 households, 6 individuals