



VISTA MATTERS: December Edition

Successive seeding: a cure for raising too many radishes, zucchini, arugula, etc. all at once!

Succession seeding means planting so that vegetables ripen a few at a time. This way you harvest in small batches, over many weeks, rather than all at once. For example, sow a few carrot seeds this week, several more in 2-3 weeks, and seed again in another 2-3 weeks. In 55-90 days (depending on the "days to maturity" of the variety seeded) you will harvest your first carrots and have more fresh carrots every 2-3 weeks afterward.

[Click HERE for More Info On Succession Seeding](#)



Right Plant, Right Place, Right Time - Edibles to plant in December

Arugula, beet, carrot, radish, spinach, Swiss chard, and turnip seeds, as well as onion sets available in the House of the Rising Seeds (HRS) Saturdays 10-11 am and Mondays 5-5:30 p.m.

Broccoli, celery, kale, kalette, leek and lettuce seedlings ready to transplant into your raised garden beds. Nine varieties of lettuce available!

Chris and the HRS volunteers are preparing for the next growing season - currently getting an early start on raising peppers, tomatoes and eggplants. Stop by and watch them develop as you plan your Spring garden.

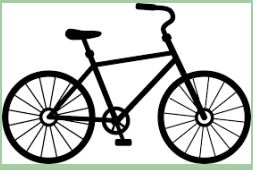
Meanwhile, enjoy growing cool season vegetables.

Read More About Growing Lettuce

EDIBLES TO PLANT IN DECEMBER

	North	Central	South
Easily Survives Transplanting	Arugula, Beets, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Chinese Cabbage, Collards, Kale, Kohlrabi, Swiss Chard	Arugula, Beets, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Chinese Cabbage, Collards, Endive/Escarole, Kale, Kohlrabi, Lettuce, Swiss Chard	Arugula, Beets, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Chinese Cabbage, Collards, Eggplant, Endive/Escarole, Kale, Kohlrabi, Lettuce, Pepper, Sweet Potato, Swiss Chard, Tomatoes
Survives Can Only Transplanting	Carrots, Celery, Mustard, Spinach	Carrots, Celery, Mustard, Potatoes, Spinach	Carrots, Celery, Mustard, Potatoes, Spinach
Use Seeds	Onions (green, shallots), Radish, Turnips	Onions (green, shallots), Peas (English), Radish, Turnips	Beans (bush, pole, lima), Cantaloupe, Corn (sweet), Cucumber, Onion (green, shallots), Peas (English, southern), Radish, Squash (summer, winter), Turnips, Watermelon

Upcoming Events



Bike Ride: Sunday, December 13

Join us for a casually paced bike ride on the Upper Tampa Bay Trail!

Option 1: Drive to trail, meet on trail outside Ballyhoo restaurant on Ehrlich Rd, (ride trail as far as you want, then turn around) 11:30am start

Option 2: Drive to trail, meet on trail outside Ballyhoo restaurant on Ehrlich Rd, (ride trail only) about 12 miles round trip, 11:30am start

Option 3: Meet at new Carrollwood Village Park, (ride to trail, continue on trail, ride back) about 20 miles round trip, 11:00am start

Outdoor snack/lunch at Ballyhoo's for those who wish to stay is also an option.



Community Calendar

Happy Hour Time Change

When: Fridays
Time: 4:30-5:30p.m.

Join your fellow garden members for a socially distanced Happy Hour at the garden.

This is an excellent opportunity for members to get to know each other and unwind after a hectic week.

Please bring a chair and your favorite drinks and snacks.

Please RSVP so we know who to wait for.
Text or call Laurie Kleiner 813-758-9457

**Winter Event: Tuesday,
December 8 4:30-5:30**

GARDEN ART COMMITTEE
presents their Winter Event! Fun
in store. They are getting out
the paints of many colors!

Yoga in the Garden

Yoga in the gardens! All VISTA members welcome. The second Friday and Saturday of each month from 10-11 a.m. Begins December 11 and 12.

Come join instructor (and VISTA gardener) Lauren Chidel for an hour of garden-inspired yoga, where we can grow as tall as the trees and squat like the frogs! Lauren will be guiding gardeners through teachings of Hatha yoga, a branch of yoga focused on physical postures and breathwork. Through the movement of the body with the breath, we will cultivate mobility, strength, and a greater sense of peace and comfort within one's body and mind. This class is suitable for all levels, no matter your abilities/mobility level. Please come in comfortable clothing and bring your own yoga mat, any props/blankets (if you wish), and water.



About Lauren:

Lauren began practicing yoga at the age of 16, in which the self-discovery and bodily awareness she gained from yoga fueled her inspiration to share these teachings with her community. In 2017, she graduated from the Lotus Pond Center for Yoga and Health with a 200hr yoga certification. Lauren is passionate about sharing her knowledge of yoga to positively impact the physical and mental health of others, and guide students into gaining a deeper sense of self-awareness. Through understanding one's self, Lauren believes that the world can become a more supportive place of kindness, compassion, and unconditional love. In addition to teaching yoga, Lauren is a visual artist and a lover of world culture/language, science, and all things nature. She spends much of her free time creating art, dancing, volunteering and teaching, and spending time outdoors, including growing a garden at VISTA (AE6, with a good

view of the avocado and citrus trees.)

Garden Needs

Donations Wanted:

Medium or heavy-duty kinkless garden hoses to replace the old hoses throughout the garden. Spray Nozzles also needed!

[Click HERE for Spray Nozzle Example](#)

Friends helping friends:

Do you know someone who trims trees or who is in the paving business that would like to help VISTA for free or at a reduced cost? We would like to put more crushed asphalt on the driveway and possibly create a larger parking area near the shed and compost. We would also like to trim some of the tall trees along the back fence as they are blocking the sun from our solar panels early in the morning. If so, please have them contact Marty at 813-404-3140.

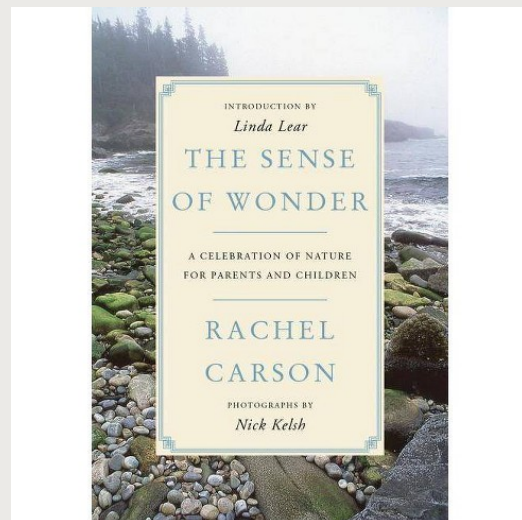
New in the Little Free Library

The Sense of Wonder by Rachel Carson is a timeless book about adventures with a young nephew, enjoying walks along the rocky coast of Maine and through dense forests and open fields, observing wildlife, strange plants, moonlight and storm clouds, and listening to the "living music" of insects in the underbrush. "If a child is to keep alive his inborn sense of wonder," writes Carson, "he needs the companionship of at least one adult who can share it, rediscovering with him the joy, excitement and mystery of the world we live in."

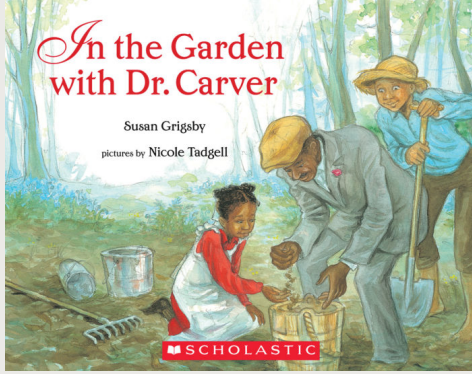
Grades 6-8, and many adults.

In the Garden with Dr. Carver by Susan Grigsby, illustrated by Nicole Tadgell

The Sense of Wonder by Rachel Carson



[Click For More Info](#)



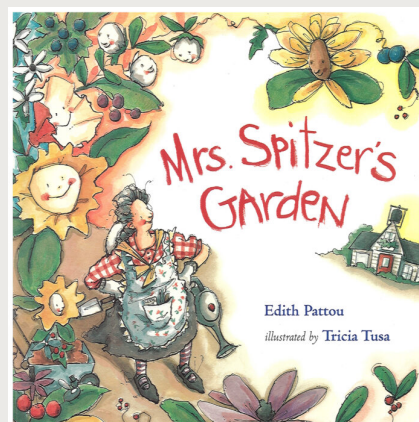
This fictionalized account of plant scientist George Washington Carver shares the story of how he taught children to grow plants and reap the rewards of nature's bounty. The text includes factual notes about Dr. Carver.

Grades 3-5

Click For More Info

Mrs. Spitzer is a wise teacher who knows many things. She knows about gardens. She knows about children. She knows how similar they are, and how both will flourish if tended lovingly. There are many remarkable teachers like Mrs. Spitzer in the world, and Edith Pattou's simple, moving story along with Tricia Tusa's inspired, whimsical illustrations celebrate all they do, year after year, to help our children grow and blossom.

Mrs. Spitzer's Garden by Edith Pattou, Illustrated by Tricia Tusa



Pre-K - Grade 2

Click For More Info



All books were purchased through a grant VISTA Gardens received from Forever Friends.

<http://www.foreverfriends.org/>

Volunteers Needed!

We still need more volunteers to turn the compost!

Take a turn and be "Compost Fit"!



To accomplish turning our compost piles before New Year's Day festivities, we are asking member volunteers to schedule from 8-9 or 9-10 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, December 28, 29, or 30th.

Click [HERE](#) to Sign Up!

VISTA Memories



Because of the COVID-19 virus, the Straz Broadway series has been shut down. So, it is fun to remember when Broadway came to VISTA Gardens in 2017.

Megan Picerno, who played Christine Daae in the Broadway hit, *Love Never Dies* (the sequel to *The Phantom of the Opera*) collected the compostable food items from the cast and personally brought it VISTA for composting.

VISTA Gardens
13572 South Village Drive
Tampa, Florida 33618

Connect with us

