

BEAR CREEK GARDEN ASSOCIATION CALENDAR 2022

- February** **Winter Potluck for Returning Gardeners – Cancelled because of Covid-19 closures**
- March 12** **Garden Class - "Growing Vegetables at the Charmaine Nymann Community Garden - Tips for Success" at Bear Creek Nature Center**
- April 9-10** **Orientation Meeting for New Gardeners – Program will be presented on Zoom. Details to be announced.**
- April** **County tills the garden
Volunteers stake plots and define aisles**
- April 16** **Garden opens - weather permitting**
- Returning Gardeners check in at the garden between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon. Purchase keys and badges, Can order straw.**
- New Gardeners check in. Purchase keys and badges and can order straw. Onsite orientation (required). Gardeners will be scheduled in small groups starting at 1:00 p.m.**
- Planting begins - peas/spinach/lettuce/beets/kale/potatoes**
- May** **Water is turned on early in the month by the Parks Department
Average last killing frost is May 15th
Ladybugs and killdeer begin returning to the garden
Wind and cold protection essential for tender plants
Plant beans/corn/carrots after the soil warms up**
- May 28** **Plant and Tool Sale Bring extra plants and tools to donate between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m. Sale runs from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Proceeds go to the Goat Fund.**
- June** **Plant squash/cucumbers after Memorial Day (after June 1)
Plant tomatoes/peppers/eggplant/basil (use cold protection)
Begin harvesting greens
Keep plot moist as heat increases; Spread straw mulch
Daylight lengthens – garden is open until dark**

July Cheyenne Mountain Zoo and Silver Key both start picking up donated produce from tarps by the Truck Gate later in the month
Keep after weeds and bugs; Plant late season peas and spinach

July 15 After this date, the gates must be locked at all times

July 31 Last day to spread straw mulch on plots

August Danger of hail is greatest the first week of August
Shorter daylight – garden closes at dark

August 14 Summer Potluck – Gold Hill Mesa 12:30 p.m. Details to be provided.

September Dumpsters arrive at Labor Day for garden refuse.
Zoo and Silver Key continue to pick up excess produce until garden closes.
Frost is possible from mid-month – cover the tomatoes!
Continue harvesting greens and root crops

Sept. 14 Bear Creek Garden Association Annual Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Cheyenne Mountain Library, 1785 S. 8th Street, Ste. 100

October Workdays: October 1, 8, 9, 15

Average first killing frost is October 10

Garden mix/manure is delivered to plots of gardeners who ordered it

All plots must be cleared by the end of the day on October 15

October 15 Garden closes.

Workdays are scheduled for the third Saturday morning each month.

May 21
June 18
July 16

August 20
September 17
October 1, 8, 9, 15

The Board of Directors meets monthly from February through November

Please notify a Board member of any of the following conditions:

- **You will be gone more than two weeks**
- **You have to give up gardening and abandon your plot**
- **You need advice for weed or bug control**
- **You find a leak in the water system**
- **The gate has been left unlocked (please lock it)**
- **You need a new key or badge**
- **You see a job in the garden that you are qualified to help with**

Please notify the Bear Creek Garden Association (or the Colorado Springs Police Department (Gold Hill Division) at 719-385-2100 or 911, if necessary) if you see anything that is dangerous or threatening to you in the park. We encourage you to work in the gardens only when another gardener is present and leave the garden at dark.

Please do not leave tools or equipment on your plot as this violates our agreement with the El Paso County Parks Department. Hoses and watering cans stored neatly on individual plots are permitted.