



»»» NEWSLETTER «««

THE BIG GARDEN THYMES

TOP NEWS OF THE QUARTER



T e a c h . B u i l d . G r o w .

Teaching People. Building Communities. Growing Food Sovereignty.



WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER

A note from our Executive Director, Tom

»»» WHAT TO EXPECT

Welcome to the first edition of The Big Garden's quarterly newsletter, *The Big Garden Thymes*! We'll look at our programs and services, our goals and our milestones, current projects, and a look at some of the folks who make a difference in our organization. Our mission is simple: Teach. Build. Grow. Each newsletter will dive a little deeper into the programs that make up these three, oh-so-powerful words! Pass it along to friends and family...better yet, invite them to [subscribe here!](#)

TAGG - AN EASY WAY TO DONATE

TAGG is a local fundraising platform and is the easiest way to raise funds! 400+ local businesses will donate 5% to us every day. No selling or asking for donations, just upload your receipts to [TAGG.today!](#) Even better- YOU earn points and can redeem them for rewards! Check out the [complete list of participating businesses](#) in Omaha to participate today.



TAGG, YOU'RE IT!

[Click here to start uploading receipts.](#)



BEETS FROM Q3

HERE ARE SOME COOL BEANS FROM THIS QUARTER

We know you relish the puns!

»»» FALL HARVEST TOTALS

Our harvest season is in full force. To date, we have harvested *OVER 5000 POUNDS* of produce and are still going! As we harvest, we distribute produce with Free Farm Syndicate and The Union for Contemporary Arts on the weekends, and we deliver directly to pantries like Together, Intercultural Senior Center, or St. Martin de Porres Catholic Charities during the week. This year, the most interesting thing we grew in our high tunnels was turmeric! Are you interested in hosting a community garden to harvest your own produce? Spring 2024 applications for new gardens will open in December. [Bookmark this page to apply!](#)

GIVING GROVE FIVE-YEAR AFFILIATE AWARD

On April 13th, 2023, The Big Garden was awarded the 5-Year Giving Grove Affiliate Milestone Award.



»»» FARM STANDS AND MOBILE KITCHEN

This summer, Whispering Roots and The Big Garden partnered to bring Farm Stands to WIC (Women, Infants & Children) clinics and senior centers across the community. From June to September, we traveled with our Mobile Kitchen to 12 different farm stands in Omaha, and three in Missouri Valley. In total, we served 339 WIC families, 80 seniors with vouchers, and 197 non-WIC or voucher families. In total, our Farm Stand program sold a total of \$66,733.

»»» THE GIVING GROVE

As an affiliate of Kansas City's [The Giving Grove](#), we participate in extending their mission's reach to provide healthy calories, strengthen the community, and improve the urban environment through a nationwide network of sustainable little orchards. This fall, we planted two peach trees at the Jocelyn Castle Native Garden and have begun pruning at seven of our little local orchards including Benson Little League, Tri-Faith Initiative, and the Salvation Army to name a few. Spring 2024 applications for new orchards will be open in December. [Bookmark this page to apply!](#)



CUMIN SOON AT A GARDEN NEAR YOU

WHEYS TO GET INVOLVED

Lettuce know if you'll join!

2024 SEED SHARE

2024 marks the 10th anniversary of hosting our annual Seed Share! Our team is busy saving seeds that will be distributed on February 10th - more details to come soon, so follow our pages to get those details. Want to save your own tomato seeds next year? Click the graphic below to learn how to save tomato seeds!



2024 CARDBOARD DRIVE

Did you know that we use cardboard for sheet mulching? We put it down and place mulch on top to help suppress weeds! We need your help collecting cardboard! Here is how you know we can use your boxes:

- They are plain - no shiny coating.
 - Printed words are okay.
- Medium-large broken-down boxes are preferred.
- Please remove any tape and labels.

If your boxes meet these requirements, email satkins-rawauld@biggarden.org to schedule a drop off time.

2024 VOLUNTEER

Are you interested in volunteering with The Big Garden? Our staff is stretched pretty thin, especially in March-August, and we don't have time to get to everything that needs to be done. We have many different types of volunteer work available at our campus: from planting and weeding, to scrubbing pots, stuffing envelopes, cleaning and organizing, mulching, tagging plants, and even washing dishes! We would welcome your help! [Fill out this form](#) and we will be in touch with you soon!

GREENHOUSE REPAIR

It's no secret that our greenhouses are the foundation to our operation at The Big Garden. We need your help raising money to replace the plastic so we can continue growing veggies for our community year-round. [Click here](#) to learn more and help us reach our goal of \$8,900 for this project!



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