

Hi friends! Here's a recap of our meeting last night, please feel free to add anything that I missed as well.

1. Adding topics:

- a. A topic is a "mini group chat" within our main one. You may have noticed that when you go to select the community garden chat there's a watering schedule, garden log, and recipe topic. These mini chats will help us stay organized and not let things fall through the cracks. For example, we can have more group discussions in the main one and discussions about the watering schedule can be in their own chat
- b. We've noticed people sending in their log entries into the main group chat but with a separate one we can have our log streamlined (and still easily accessible). This is a new thing we're trying out so if you're having issues or questions, please let me or the group know. Our goal is to make it so you don't have to deal with the spreadsheet log (which I will still have in there if you'd like to reference it). You can just check the garden log topic and send in your entries there. For now, we'd like people to just send their entries in the garden log chat (no need to submit entries twice), but if it's not working or people aren't liking it we can always figure something else out.
- c. The watering schedule topic is made with the intention that we have more flexibility in scheduling and accessibility to the schedule. I know some people have been having issues with editing the log and getting the sheets app to make it work so with this topic, we can send a screenshot of the schedule for the month, say which days we still need to water and people can volunteer to help out or fill in gaps. We want to make sure the watering is getting done and offer more flexibility with the workload. I will add in all the watering resources to the topic and people can speak up about watering schedules without cluttering the main chat.
- d. I also made one for recipes where people can send in any good recipe ideas for the garden. Just another easy way to build community and enjoy the harvest a little more.

2. Watering schedule

- a. With our set workdays of Tuesday evenings and Friday mornings we can take Tuesday and Friday off the watering schedule. Those groups will help with the watering schedule. I'll be "graying" out Wednesdays which means that depending on the weather some watering may be needed but it may also be fine. Wednesdays would be good days to check and see but be prepared if it does need to be watered.

- b. We want people to be able to have more flexibility with watering so as we get towards some of our empty slots in the watering schedule, we encourage people to take whatever days they can. It doesn't have to be a full week, 7 days in a row; it can be every Monday and Thursday for a few weeks or whatever works with your schedule. This can be easily communicated in the watering schedule topic.
  - c. Sebastian and I are working on bringing in some soaker hoses which will go in the beds and make watering much easier. More info to come soon as it will also be experimental and we're not sure how well it will work.
3. Garden Liaisons
- a. Sebastian and myself were looking to have more streamlined communication and having each work day have a liaison that can funnel down the information to us to help improve communication. We have Mary Jane for the Friday group and Sheron for the Tuesday group but if anyone is interested in joining them please message me and we can have that conversation.
  - b. As always you are also very welcome and encouraged to add more work days to the schedule that work for you. If Sunday evenings work for your schedule and you want to work in the garden those days, then send out a message letting people know. Anytime that works for you to work in the garden is great! **I can also send out a poll asking which day of the week is best for your schedules to add another workday.**
4. Harvest Nights
- a. We discussed planning "harvest nights" where we can come together to learn and discuss harvesting techniques, what to harvest, and answer any other questions. This is a great way to connect everyone and get on the same page about harvesting.
  - b. This would also be a great way for everyone to share a little bit of their knowledge. Anyone is welcome to take initiative, set a date, and share some wisdom. **I would like to add that whoever is leading the instruction deserves respect and patience, even if you disagree or want to object to certain things, I ask that you do it with compassion and respect.** It's important that we let everyone have a chance to share their knowledge and just because you might not be familiar with it doesn't mean they're wrong.
5. Final Note
- a. Let's all continue to be mindful of our tone and communication, both in and out of the garden. We want to keep this a positive, welcoming space for everyone involved. It's always helpful to pause and consider how our words (spoken or written) might come across to others. We all experience moments of frustration

from time to time, and when those arise, let's work together to handle them with respect and maturity.