

Currant Affairs

January 21, 2022 Edition

Compiled regularly by Nick Riordan on behalf of Yarcucopia (a program of Alaska Community Action on Toxics) and the Alaska Food Policy Council

****Marks new and updated items in this issue**

WORKSHOPS, WEBINARS, & SPECIAL EVENTS

January 23

Urban Harvest (hosted by the Anchorage Museum) offers a class on Ice Fishing at Sand Lake from Noon – 2:00 PM – [More details and registration here.](#)

January 24 – May 9

Teaching in Natures Classroom is an online course offered by the **Wisconsin School Garden Network**. The class 'is an opportunity for educators new to outdoor and garden-based learning, as well as those experienced in the field, to consider best practices and reflect on their own teaching practice in outdoor learning environments, with a focus on school and community youth gardens.' <https://www.teachinginnaturesclassroom.org/online-course>

January 25 – March 1

From the Ground Up! A class series put together by **Kenai Soil and Water Conservation District** and the **UAF Cooperative Extension Service**. [More info and registration.](#)

Jan 25: BioChar Basics & Other New and Exciting Ideas for Enhancing Your Soils Nutrients

Feb 1: What About Those Trees? Small Woodlot Management

Feb 8: Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for Growers

Feb 15: Benefits & Usage of Cover Cropping for Soil Enhancement in Alaska

Feb 22: AKAgrAbility Overview & Resources

March 1: Conservation Programs and Other Resources that Benefit Producers

****January 26**

AK DEH State Veterinarian is hosting an **Animals and Preparedness Webinar Series: Winter Weather**. The first webinar focuses on Pets and Small Animals. [More info and registration here.](#)

****January 28 – April 22**

Anchorage Parks and Rec is hosting a series of **gardening classes** at the Dr. Lydia Selkregg Chalet and Mann Leister Greenhouse, typically from 5:30 – 7:30 PM. \$15 each. [Register here.](#)

Jan 28: Houseplants 102

Feb 25: Seed and Plant Starting
March 11: Tool Selection and Maintenance
March 25: Compost Made Easy
April 8: Cold Frame Gardening
April 22: Container Gardening

****January 31**

ABG offers a virtual **Integrated Pest Management Workshop** from 6:30-7:30 PM taught by Sarah Lanners from Green Connection. The focus is on houseplants. [More info here.](#)

February 1

Urban Harvest (hosted by the Anchorage Museum) offers a Zoom class entitled '**Not Your Miner's Sourdough**' from 6:00 – 7:30 PM. – [More details and registration here.](#)

****February 2**

Animals and Preparedness Webinar Series: Winter Weather continues. The second webinar focuses on Livestock and Large Animals. [More info and registration here.](#)

February 4 – March 11

Organic Gardening – The Comprehensive Growers Course offered by **Good Earth Garden School** and the Mat-Su College. [More info and registration here.](#)

February 8-April 26

AMGA is offering **Intro to Botany & Plant Identification** with Dr. Marilyn Barker on 12 consecutive Tuesdays nights from 7-8 pm. View the [course outline](#) & [sign up](#). Member cost: \$50.

February 9-March 16

AMGA is offering **Garden Design** with Brenda Adams on six consecutive Wednesday nights from 6-8 pm. View the [course outline](#) & [sign up](#). Member cost: \$50.

****February 21**

Alaska Master Gardeners Anchorage Monthly Meeting: Robbi Mixon presents on **The Alaska Food Policy Council**. 7:00 – 8:00 PM.

March 11-12

ABG's annual Spring Garden Conference will be held virtually for 2022. They are seeking engaging and knowledgeable presenters to submit proposals. Do you have an area of expertise you would love to share with the larger gardening community? We welcome lecture and workshop style presentations (30-45 minutes), shorter 15-minute sessions or rapid-fire

presentations (10 minutes). **Proposals must be submitted by January 17th, 2022** to ABG's Program Director at stacey.shriner@alaskabg.org. [More info on their website.](#)

March 17

Food for the Rest of Us with **Caroline Cox** (Director) & **Tiffany Ayalik** (Producer) will be shown as the **Alaska Food Festival & Conference Kick-Off Event**. The feature film presents 4 stories of people living life on their own terms, serving as leaders who are lending their voice to the underdog and leading a revolution to a better world, from the ground up! An Indigenous-owned, youth-run organic farm in Hawaii, and Black urban grower in Kansas City who runs a land-farm at East High School, A female Kosher Butcher in Colorado working with the Queer Community and an Inuit community on the Arctic Coast who are adapting to climate change with a community garden in a small geodesic dome. Time will be announced later.

March 18-19

2022 Alaska Food Festival and Conference – The 6th annual semi-annual conference to talk about all things Alaska and food! There will be an in-person and virtual options of attendance. [Read more at the AK Food Policy Council Website.](#) Oh, and they are accepting [session abstracts](#) and [AK Food Hero nominations.](#)

****March 21**

Alaska Master Gardeners Anchorage Monthly Meeting: Gino Graziano presents '**Invasive Plants in Alaska and How You Can Help**'. 7:00 – 8:00 PM.

April 8

Alaska Farmers Market Summit will be held from 8am to 5pm. For more information, go to <https://www.alaskafarmersmarkets.org/2022-alaska-farmers-market-summit-april-8th/>.

PROGRAM and JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

****Blue Market** in Spenard is kicking off a **Talk and Tinker Series** and hosting regular pop-ups by local vendors. Currently featuring visits from **Farm 779, Raven's Creek Farms,** and **Common Root.** More to come. [See their events page for up-to-date details.](#)

APU's Spring Creek Farm is hiring for two positions: **Assistant Production Manager** and **Farm Intern.** They are a non-profit educational farm and are looking for individuals who want to learn about agriculture in AK and are ready to work hard. Summer positions include on-farm housing. Apply on the APU website: <https://www.alaskapacific.edu/careers/>

The Harvest of Hope Memorial Garden is seeking to fill volunteer roles: a grant writer, blogger, and volunteer coordinator. The grant writer would look for grant opportunities and write up proposals, the blogger would assist with posting and updating the existing blog, and the volunteer coordinator would coordinate activities like garden tours and enlisting volunteers.

If interested, please contact Don Bladow at (907) 830-5723 or email him at dfbladow@gmail.com.

Camp Counselor/Farm Education Intern at **Calypso Farm & Ecology Center** in **Fairbanks** for summer 2022. Apply now to be a Camp Counselor at Calypso's summer Farm Camps! Develop your leadership skills, learn techniques for working with children and youth, and learn all about (and practice!) principles of hands-on, outdoor education. **Application Deadline: March 1**. For more information, contact Leila at leila@calypsofarm.org Details and Application Instructions are at <https://calypsofarm.org/employment/>

Farm Educator/Assistant Camp Director at **Calypso Farm & Ecology Center** in **Fairbanks** for summer 2022. Apply now to be a Farm Educator at Calypso Farm, and the Assistant Director for our summer Farm Camps! Spend your summer working outdoors, inspiring children to explore the wonders of nature, cook their own food from the garden, learn about farm animals, and more! **Application Deadline: February 1**. Contact Leila at leila@calypsofarm.org with questions. Details and Application Instructions are at <https://calypsofarm.org/employment/>.

Intertribal Agriculture Council (IAC) Alaska Region/Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has a **Native American Student Internship Opportunity** to help support the next generation of Alaska Native land managers. [More info on their website.](#)

Seeds and Soil's Jennifer Sharrock offers a multitude of classes during January-April 2022, from garden design, mushroom cultivation, soil amendments, the list goes on. [Read more here!](#)

Alaska Seeds of Change has many volunteer opportunities this winter. Many of their summer interns and employees head back to school in the fall/winter, so it's a good time to step up to help this great organization. Sign up for a shift using [Seeds Sign Up Genius](#) here, or if it's your first-time volunteering, email volunteer@akseedsofchange.com for an orientation.

Alaska Master Gardeners Anchorage and the **Alaska School Garden Network** compile a list of public garden projects and volunteer opportunities – [you can view it here.](#)

A List of Anchorage Food Pantries can be found at AnchorageFood.org (Address, hours, etc.)

FALL FARMERS MARKETS, INDOOR FARMS, & WINTER CSA's

Arctic Harvest has an [online winter farm stand](#), will be selling turkeys for the holidays, and much more. Submit your order from 3 pm Friday to 9 pm Sunday for pickup/delivery next week.

Blue Market carries lots of locally grown and fermented foods. You can find **Happy Mushroom** mushrooms, **Common Root** Kimchi and Curtido, greens from **Seeds of Change** & much more.

Local Greens sell hydroponically grown veggies year-round in Anchorage. [Get a weekly or every-other-week subscription](#), and pickup at Double Shovel Cidery at your convenience

Far North Fungi grows and sells fresh and dried mushrooms in Anchorage and teaches fungi cultivation. They'll be at...

City Farms is an indoor hydroponics farm in Anchorage. Their veggies can be found at New Sagaya, Natural Pantry, and Fred Meyer. <https://www.cityfarmsalaska.com/>

Anchorage Greens sells direct to consumers through a weekly Green Bag subscription as well as folks who stop by for on-site ala carte purchases. <https://www.anchoragegreens.com/>

Alaska Sprouts sells sprouts and microgreens online for pickup in Anchorage - <https://www.alaskasprouts.com/> . Read more about their story in a [2017 issue of Edible Alaska](#)

Petit Bloom Microgreens is on hold for winter – hoping to see them back in business next year! <https://www.lepetit-bloom.com/>

Space Farming Institute has an [8-week microgreens subscription](#) and sells hydroponic towers for growing your own plants at your school, home, office, etc. This is a wonderful non-profit and whether you're buying greens or a tower garden, well worth a visit to their Living Lab. Lots more info about their many programs and resources at <https://www.agronauts.org/>

The Alaska Farmers Market Association's [Market Directory](#) is a simple and easy way to find and learn more about farmers markets you live by, locations, hours, payment options, etc.

To **RECEIVE** Currant Affairs, suggest items to **ADD, CHANGE EMAIL ADDRESS** or **UNSUBSCRIBE**, contact Nick Riordan at riordannk@gmail.com.