

Currant Affairs

March 23, 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

March 24

UAF Cooperative Extension is hosting **Ethical foraging** from 12-1pm - Why food is preserved, methods of preservation, and causes of food spoilage will be discussed. General tips will also be discussed. [Zoom link.](#)

****March 24**

How to Design a Simple, Gravity-Fed Drip Irrigation System for Your Garden hosted by Homer Soil and Water Conservation District and presented by Tom Zimmer from Calypso Farm. 6-7 pm. [More info and registration here.](#)

March 25

Anchorage Parks and Rec is hosting a class on **Compost Made Easy** at the Mann Leiser Greenhouse, from 5:30 – 7:30 PM. \$15. [Register here.](#)

March 29

UAF Cooperative Extension is hosting **Food Dehydration Basics** from 12-1pm - One of the oldest food preservation methods, dehydration is an excellent way to extend your wild or garden harvest. In this class you will learn about equipment and techniques for drying meats, vegetables, fruits, and herbs for use in your home cooking throughout the year. [Zoom link.](#)

March 30

Organic Gardening Workshop will be held from 6:30 to 8:30pm. Learn the concepts of no-till, use of beneficial insects, creation of new growing spaces, animals on the landscape and so much more. You will also be provided with extensive further readings and learning opportunities. [Register here.](#)

March 31

UAF Cooperative Extension is hosting **Chicken University** from 12-1pm - A backyard flock is fun & a great way to include Alaskan food security and sustainability. This class will enable a novice to start their first flock. Breed selection, incubation, nutrition, coop design, disease management, cold weather tips & even chicken psychology will be covered. [Zoom link.](#)

April 2

2022 State Alaska Master Gardeners Conference – You Can Grow It! - will be on Saturday, April 2 from 8:00 am - 5:30 pm at Evangelo's Restaurant off the E Parks Hwy in Wasilla. This year's program has a focus on beginning and new-to-Alaska gardeners. [More info.](#)

****April 4**

How Kelp Benefits Your Body and The Earth (Virtual), a part of Anchorage Museum's Urban Harvest series, and taught by Noble Oceans Farms. 6-7:30 pm. [More Info.](#)

April 8

2022 Alaska Farmers Market Association Summit & Annual Meeting. Join for a day dedicated to all things farmers markets. [Updates](#) / [Registration](#).

April 8

Anchorage Parks and Rec is hosting a class on **Cold Frame Gardening** at the Dr. Lidia Selkregg Chalet, from 5:30 – 7:30 PM. \$15. [Register here.](#)

April 16

Beyond Compost: Other Ways to Build Soil (Virtual) from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, taught by Ellen Vande Visse at the **Good Earth Garden School**, hosted by Alaska Mill & Feed. [More info](#)

April 18

Garden Insect Ecology presented by Alex Wenninger at **AMGA's** monthly meeting

April 22

Anchorage Parks and Rec is hosting a class on **Container Gardening** at the Dr. Lidia Selkregg Chalet, from 5:30 – 7:30 PM. \$15. [Register here.](#)

April 23

Pre-emptive Protection from Plant Diseases (Virtual) from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, taught by Ellen Vande Visse at the **Good Earth Garden School**, hosted by Alaska Mill & Feed. [More info](#)

April 26

Wild Harvesting in the Boreal Forest (in person), a part of Anchorage Museum's Urban Harvest series, and taught by Tikaan Galbreath. Highly recommended. 6-7:30 pm. In connection with current museum exhibit, *Borealis: Life in the Woods*. [More Info.](#)

PROGRAM and JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

****Catholic Social Services** is offering a new Americorp opportunity: Growing Roots – Refugee Economic Empowerment. The successful applicant will work with a wonderful team on a great mission involving Fresh International Garden and Grow North Farm – [more details here](#).

****Yarducopia** (a program of Alaska Community Action on Toxics) is accepting signups for gardeners looking for growing space, landowners offering space, and volunteers offering time to help make it all happen. Reach out to Yarducopia at garden@akaction.org or [their website](#).

****Solid Waste Services [Curbside Composting Program](#) just opened for registration!** Food scraps and yard trimmings make up about 1/3 of all residential solid waste. Composting helps promote community sustainability, reduces methane, and extends the life of the landfill. The program runs May through October for residents in SWS service territory in Anchorage. **Call 343-6250** today to register or find out if you are a SWS customer

The Microgrants for Food Security Program offered by the AK Division of Agriculture are accepting applications through **March 30 Deadline** – [more info on their website](#).

Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association is hiring a **Youth Agriculture Project Manager** in Emmonak this summer. [Check out the job description for more info](#).

Alaska Botanical Gardens has listed their summer term positions in Horticulture and Education [on their website](#) - Be a part of the team during our peak bloom season!

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](#).

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](#).

Vertical Harvest Hydroponics' [Sunny Pro XL](#) is a modular and convenient grow cabinet that can produce fresh produce all year. Could be a great fit for your organization or community.

FOOD PANTRIES, WINTER GROWERS, & SHOPPING LOCAL FOODS

Alaska Food Hub opened for its 7th season, with pick-ups in Homer, Soldotna, Ninilchik, and Seldovia, with more locations in the works.

ABG opened registration for their **Guided Gardening: Learning Summer CSA** – [more info](#).

Foundroot's Alaska-hearty seeds are for sale. [Mailed from Haines with love](#).

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

Support Alaska's American Indian Producers - <https://www.indianagfoods.org/alaska-1> & check out Ag Alaska's list of AK farms - <https://agalaska.org/alaska-farms/>

Arctic Harvest has an [online winter farm stand](#), sells all sorts of veggies, meats, milk, eggs from growers in the Valley and further afield in AK. 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 throughout the winter. You can find **Happy Mushrooms**, **Common Root** kimchi and curtido, greens from **Seeds of Change** & much more.

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

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 & teaches fungi cultivation.

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](#)

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/>

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