

Currant Affairs

March 1, 2021 Edition

Compiled once or twice a month by Nick Riordan on behalf of Yarcucopia, Alaska Community Action on Toxics and the Alaska Food Policy Council

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

VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS, WEBINARS, CONFERENCES, & SPECIAL EVENTS

March 2

Matanuska Experimental Farm and Extension Center is offering a virtual **Composting** workshop at noon. [More info here.](#)

****March 4 & 5**

The annual **Spring Garden Conference** hosted by the **Alaska Botanical Garden** is fast approaching! It will be held from 3-8 pm via Zoom. [Full program and registration here.](#)

****March 6**

Sarah's Alaska Honey is offering a [5-hour bee-keeping class](#) for \$20 at Bell's Nursery.

March 9

Yarcucopia and Adrift Gardens are partnering to run a two-hour **Design Your Garden Workshop** from 6:30 – 8:30 PM. This will be activity based, so pencil, paper, and your imagination are a must. Registration is on a sliding scale. All welcome. [Read more and register here](#), and reach out to garden@akaction.org for more info.

March 11

Join **Sarah Lewis** and the Cooperative Extension Service, as part of their Reset, Refocus, and Recharge series, for an hour-long cooking class - **Veggie Slam: A Week of Vegetables in One Hour** from 6-7:00 PM. [Learn more/Register here.](#)

March 11

AK Pioneer Fruit Growers Association has invited UA's Matt Carlson & Justin Fulkerson to present on **Pollinators and Their Habitat** at their March membership meeting. 7:00 – 8:00 PM

****March 15**

Alaska Master Gardeners Anchorage monthly membership meeting 7:00 – 8:00 PM with Paul Marmora presenting **Simple Tips for Flower Arranging.**

March 18

Southeast Alaskans can now apply for a workshop to learn how to start their own mariculture farm. Registration priority given to Southeast Alaska Native residents. [More info here.](#)

March 20

Alaska Farmland Trust, Alaska Farm Bureau, Homer Soil & Water Conservation District, Matanuska Experiment Farm & Extension Center & UAF CES Anchorage are bringing you a VIRTUAL **Alaska Women in Ag Conference** in March. Registration opens on February 1.

March 25

Alaska Common Ground's **Climate Action Plan Series** continues with **Food Systems**. The Muni Climate Action Plan goal is to 'support local, sustainable food systems', and the event will consist of 10+ speakers giving short presentations on this topic. 7-8:30 PM [Learn more/Register here](#).

March 30

Yarducopia and Adrift Gardens are partnering to run a two-hour **Seed Starting from Scratch** Workshop from 6:30 – 8:30 PM. This will be a hands-on session starting your seedlings in your own home with live instruction and Q&A. Seeds, trays, soil, and a limited number of lights available for participants. Sliding scale fees, so pay what you can so we can support those who can't! [Read more and register here](#), and reach out to garden@akaction.org for more info.

April 3

Good Earth Garden School's **Ellen Vande Visse**, and Alaska Mill & Feed are hosting an online class **Beyond Compost – Other Ways to Build Your Soil**. 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Registration details to come.

April 8

Cook Inletkeeper is putting on an **Alaska Salmon-Safe Agriculture Workshop**.

April 9

Alaska Farmers Market Association Annual Summit. [More info here](#).

****April 13**

Yarducopia is hosting a **Perennial Propagation Workshop** from 6:30-7:30 PM. Cuttings and other materials are available for pickup prior to the evening event. Contact garden@akaction.org for more info.

****April 19**

Alaska Master Gardeners Anchorage monthly membership meeting 7:00 – 8:00 PM with Troy Weiss presenting **Preparing and Managing Soil**

****April 27**

Neighborhood Composting Conversation hosted by **Yarducopia**. We'll be fielding backyard composting questions and discussing neighborhood composting projects around Anchorage.

April 30

Good Earth Garden School's **Ellen Vande Visse**, and Alaska Mill & Feed are hosting an online class **Slugs, Bugs, and other Thugs – Non-Toxic Pest Management**. 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Registration details to come.

SIGNUPS & PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Anchorage Community Garden signups is open for renewals until April 5, and it will open for new gardeners on April 10. [More info on their website.](#)

WIC and Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program will have open enrollment for farmers, farms, farm stands and farmers' markets interested in participating starting ~ February 15. Applications to receive WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition coupons close May 15. [More info here.](#)

Arctic Harvest – Winter orders ongoing; Summer subscriptions start back up in April. [More info](#)

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

The **Alaska Master Gardeners Anchorage** are accepting [grant applications](#) through April 15.

****Bruce Williard Scholarship** offered by the **AK Farm Bureau** provides \$2,000 to support two students pursuing agricultural or natural resource fields in school. Applications due by April 23.

Federal support for specialty crops in Alaska – Letters of intent due by March 22 - [Press Release](#)

OPEN POSITIONS & INTERNSHIPS

****APU's Spring Creek Farm** in search of [Farm Interns](#) and an [Assistant Production Manager](#).

Alaska Botanical Gardens is advertising for several 2021 garden positions. [Read more here.](#)

****Calypso Farm** (in Fairbanks) is hiring a Farm Educator for the summer – [More info here.](#)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES & REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

The community gardening program **Yarducopia** has a short list of asks, from perennial propagation, to sign making, to hosting a neighborhood compost. [See the whole list here.](#)

The **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.](#)

Anchor Gardens is recruiting **neighborhood garden coaches**. Coaches serve as community mentors for those interested in learning about growing food in their own neighborhoods and assist in linking people to resources. Reach out to anchorgardensanc@gmail.com.

Alaska Farm Bureau is searching for a contract webmaster and bookkeeper for 2021.

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