

Currant Affairs

May 26, 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 (Plant Sales!)

May 24 - 27

Hiland Mountain Correctional Facility plant sale from 9 am - 5 pm -

<https://patch.com/alaska/anchorage/calendar/event/20220524/1835494/hiland-mountain-annual-flower-sale-may-24-27-2022>

May 26

Cooperative Extension Workshop – Alaska’s Farmers Market Season is Here! It's a big Dill!

Join and Lettuce tell you all about Alaska's farmers' markets - they can't be Beet! But really, join the Alaska Farmers Market Association as they share what's in store for the 2022 market season.

Zoom - <https://alaska.zoom.us/j/89497213315?pwd=U0xHREVva3hVL0FYMWVBSIB3OXFTZz09>

May 26

Measure What Matters: Farmers Markets through the Lens of Global Sustainable

Development Goals. Presenter Joel Cladouhos will provide an overview of the SDG framework

followed by an interactive discussion focused on these questions: Join us via ZOOM– Meeting

ID: 894 9805 0425 PASSCODE: 4777213. Or join by phone: (253)215-8782

****May 28**

Community Garden Workday: 10am-3pm in Midtown (2930 Cheechako Street). We'll be prepping and filling garden planters and working on signage. Many hands will be helpful for this garden work party!

****June 1**

Spennard Community Garden has officially “re-convened” for the season. Same time as last year: Wednesdays (4pm-6pm) from here on out. Check out their [FB page](#) or call 207-409-5018 with questions.

June 4

Wildflower Garden Club of Alaska from 9 am - 3 pm

<https://wildflowergardenclub.org/calendar.html>

June 4

Mat Su Master Gardener plant sale - <https://allevents.in/events/annual-mat-su-master-gardeners-plant-sale/200022257653854>

June 4

Anchorage Garden Club plant sale from 9 am - 5 pm – [More info here.](#)

****June 4**

Boyer's Orchard Blossom Festival from 3 pm - 8 pm. Join us in a celebration of the season, our non-profit status and future possibilities. Come from 3-6 for a blossom bath experience, self-guided orchard tour and artmaking for all ages. Stay for live music with Denise Martin and Jim Kerr, to learn about our mission, meet the Friends of Boyer's Orchard and help us plan our future. \$10 suggested donation at the gate. 645 East 81st Ave, Anchorage. More info at AlaskaOrchard.org

****June 6**

Anchorage Museum's Urban Harvest presents Kelp and Ocean Plant Nutrition taught by Flora Deacon of Alaska Traditional Kitchen – [More info and registration](#)

****June 13**

What's in Bloom Walking Tour by the **AK Botanical Garden** from 6-9 pm – [Registration.](#)

****June 15**

Starting a Cottage Food Business class offered by Sitka Kitch from Noon – 1:30 PM via Zoom. [Learn more about it here](#) and [Register here.](#)

****June 15**

Food Business Workshop (Part 2) offered through ACLT and AK Farmers Market Association. 6-8 pm. You can watch the recording of the [first workshop \(Part 1\) and find the zoom link here.](#)

****June 22**

Pollinator Week Public Event/WorkParty organized by the AK Native Plant Society and Campbell Creek Science Center.

PROGRAM and JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

****ABG** is hiring a **Guest Services Associate** for the summer season. [Check out the job advertisement here.](#)

****AK Food Policy Council** We are working on a **statewide map of the state food system resources**. If you wish to add yourself or your organization to this map, please visit this page to read more about this important effort to provide an inclusive map of all our state food system resources. [Link to info.](#)

****Intertribal Agriculture Council** hosting roundtable conversations in early June to provide input on **where the Farm Bill can be improved** – Contact Silas Tikaan Galbreath to RSVP and with questions (907) 750-0983 / tikaan@indianag.org

- Juneau: June 7, 2022
- Fairbanks: June 9, 2022
- Anchorage: June 13, 2022

****Composting Classes** free of charge to **Mat-Su Residents**. More information can be found on our [Facebook](#) page. Check the 'upcoming events' section. Registration is REQUIRED by sending an email to compost@matsugov.us or calling 907-795-3722. Help keep this valuable material out of our landfill and reduce our carbon emissions!

- **BACKYARD COMPOSTING CLASSES:**
 - May 27 from 2:30 to 4:30 pm
 - May 28 from 10am to Noon
 - June 3 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM (noon) at VCERS
 - June 4 from Noon to 2pm
- **VERMI-COMPOSTING (WORMS) CLASSES:**
 - May 28 from 2: to 4pm
 - June 11 from 2 to 4pm
- **CERTIFIED MASTER COMPOSTING CLASS**
 - May 31 from 10am to 5 - *PREREQUISITE: BOTH Backyard Composter Certificate and Vermi-Composter Certificate required.*

****Farm Manager Position at Pilgrim Hot Springs** – <https://www.pilgrimhotsprings.com/>
\$40.10 - \$46.48 hourly depending on experience

****Summer Garden Tours** have begun! Many of the organizations listed above and below host garden tours all summer long. I encourage you to join a garden club (or three!) and attend their tours. It can be a great way to be inspired, learn from others' experience, and meet fellow enthusiasts and friends.

Certified Backyard Composter / Vermi-Composter Master Composter taught by **Ellen Vande Vise** this May and June. [More Info at Good Earth Garden School website.](#)

New Midtown Community Garden – Live in midtown and want to join a new community garden at 2930 Cheechako Street? Want to help setting up the garden? Garden beds are being built this spring. Reach out to Yarducopia at garden@akaction.org to sign up & get more info.

Anchor Gardens' manure/mulch pickup spots are stocked around town. Check in with AG for details. anchorgardens.org/stockpiles

Friends of Boyers Orchard continues [fundraising to cover annual maintenance costs](#)

Oceanside Farms has a YouTube Channel! Learn about compost, fruit tree planting/pruning, and so much more! - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYk86mucrHeiOSJLQyhzFQ>

Seeds of Change's Summer Apprenticeship Program ([flier](#)) and **Farm Field Trips** ([flier](#)).

Fundraising for Steller Secondary School Orchard – [visit their GoFundMe page](#) to learn more and support the project. I think they have arranged matching funds every dollar donated!

Calling All Young and Beginning Alaska Farmers/Ranchers the Alaska Farmers Market Association is helping kick off an Alaskan chapter of this group. The first step is to [take this survey](#) and reach out to Kyra Harty if you need more information - kyra@alaskafarmersmarkets.org / 907-235-4068 ext 20

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](#).

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](#).

FINDING FOOD: FARMERS MARKETS, FOOD PANTRIES, & FOOD HUBS
Locally Grown Resource Guide made by the Mat-Su Cooperative Extension – [Link to PDF](#).

Arctic Harvest Deliveries farm share signups are open – [loads of Alaska grown food stuffs](#)

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

****Grow North Farm Farmstand** open 4-7 pm Mon-Friday. Thursdays feature global cuisine to-go from a rotating Grow North Farm farmer! SNAP and WIC welcome.

Spring Creek Farm CSA - <https://www.alaskapacific.edu/csa/>

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

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

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/>

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](#)

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