

Currant Affairs

September 10, 2021 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

****September 11 & 12**

Chanshtnu Muldoon Park Community Garden Work Parties this Saturday & Sunday from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. We're building 42 lasagna-style garden beds. Kids welcome, tools provided, bring your own work gloves. Contact Kristi Wood with any questions at 907-278-2453 or bikemoredriveless@hotmail.com. Additional work parties Tues & Thurs 5-8 pm.

****September 12**

Stickleback Farm site in downtown Anchorage (3rd and Ingra) invites **volunteers to help plant fruit trees** Sunday 12-3 pm. Individuals and organizations involved will be sharing updates. Bring work gloves, shovel, watering can, box cutter, 5-gallon buckets, a wheel barrow and stepping stool if you can. Reach out to Danny at consenstein@gmail.com with questions.

****September 12**

Anchor Gardens and Yarcucopia (a program of ACAT) are hosting a plant pot and garden supply drop-off and exchange at the Midtown Garden Depot (2930 Cheechako Street) from 1-5 pm on Sunday. More details on the [Yarcucopia](#) and [Anchor Gardens](#) websites.

****September 14 & 16**

Chanshtnu Muldoon Park Community Garden Work Parties this Tuesday and Thursday from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. We're building 42 lasagna-style garden beds. Kids welcome, tools provided, bring your own work gloves. Contact Kristi Wood with any questions at 907-278-2453 or bikemoredriveless@hotmail.com.

September 16

Making Jerky is the next installment from the Cooperative Extension & Experimental Farm's Food Preservation Series starting at 12 pm - [list of events](#) and their details

****September 17**

AK Botanical Garden's Garlic Sale begins on Friday at 10:00 AM on their website. Pickup for online orders and in-person shopping begins Saturday. This garlic can go fast, so I recommend buying on their website early.

September 20

Urban Gardening in Anchorage with Yarcucopia and Grow North Farm presented by Nick Bachman, Keenan Plate, & Nick Riordan at the monthly AMG meeting at 7 pm. [More info.](#)

****September 24**

AK Botanical Gardens is hosting a Blue Oyster Mushroom Workshop on Friday from 5:30-7:00 PM taught by the owners of Far North Fungi. [Sign up here.](#)

September 29

Seeds and Soil Farm offers **Harvest to Home: Food Storage and Preservation** from 6:30-8:30 pm. [See their website for registration.](#)

****September 30**

Put your Garden to Rest taught by the Matanuska Experiment Farm & Extension Center's Steve Brown from Noon to 1:00 PM. He'll be sharing how a few hours spent in the garden this Fall can save you many hours of work in the spring. [More info & registration here.](#)

October 7

Hydroponics for the Home Gardener with the Anchorage Garden Club. [More info here.](#)

October 23

Alaska VegFest – Save the date for the AK VegFest on October 23. More Details to come.

****November 15**

The Story of the Seven Federal Agricultural Experiment Stations in the Territory of Alaska presented by Dr. Talis Colberg at the monthly AMG meeting at 7 pm. [More info.](#)

FARMERS MARKETS, FARMSTANDS, & CSA's

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.

Grow North Farm-stand along Mountain View Drive, open 4:00-7:00 PM Mon-Fri, selling fresh produce picked on-site that day. Food trucks on site 4-7 pm on Thursdays. Contact Nick Bachman for more info at 865-5213 or nbachman@anchorageandtrust.org.

Weekend Market at Centennial Park: Sat & Sun, locally grown produce, amazing, prepared food, [looks like this.](#)

Muldoon Farmers Market: Saturday from 9:30-2:30 at Chanshtnu Muldoon Park. Accepts: cash, check, credit/debit, food stamps/SNAP/EBT, WIC, senior nutrition coupons

Spenard Farmers Market: Saturdays from 9 am to 2 pm in the Chilkoot Charlies parking lot on Spenard Road. [Check out their FB for more info.](#)

APU Farm stand with produce from Spring Creek Farm is at [APU](#) from 3-6:30 PM and ANTHC from 3:30-7:00 PM on Wednesdays.

Center Market: A Year-Round market open Wed & Fri 10-6, Sat 10-4 inside Midtown Mall.

Midtown Anchorage Farmers Market: Saturday 9:00 to 2:00 at the BP Building parking lot. Runs through October.

South Anchorage Farmers Market: Saturday 9-2 pm at the O'Malley Sports Center, Wednesdays 10-4 pm at Dimond Center's south parking lot.

ANC Market Social from 11:00 – 5:00 Sundays at Town Square Park featuring local makers, growers, and artisans. Last market - Sept 26. [More info here.](#)

Eagle River Farmers Markets: Tuesdays 3-7 pm in the VFW Post parking lot, Saturdays 10-4 pm at 12110 Business Blvd.

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

****Organic Gardening – The Comprehensive Growers Course** taught by Ellen Vandevise at the Mat-Su College runs from February 4 – March 11 at 4:00 PM and 8:30 PM. [More details](#)

****Alaska Food Festival and Conference – Save the date! March 18-19 2022.** [More info at the AK Food Policy Council's Website.](#)

2021 Alaska Food Security Investment Recommendations published by the AK Food Policy Council. [Available to view and download on their website.](#)

WIC Benefits Increasing (June-September) -Alaska families enrolled in WIC can eat more fruits and vegetables thanks to the American Rescue Plan Act, also called the federal COVID-19 stimulus package. Benefits will be increasing for each mother and child enrolled in WIC between June through September to buy fresh, frozen, or canned fruits and vegetables at over 160 participating stores across the state. [WIC prescreening tool](#) & [Sign up.](#)

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

The Spenard Community Garden hosts weekly garden gatherings on Wednesdays from 4-7. Live in the neighborhood? Pop on by. [You can learn more about the garden here.](#)

The Cooperative Extension Service's Heidi Rader will be teaching the next **Online Master Gardener Class** from August 23 to December 3. Registration is open. [More details here.](#)

The **Alaska Master Gardeners** will be offering another **Advanced Master Gardeners course** taught by Brenda Adams this fall. Details TBA. [Sign up here for more information.](#)

Looking for space to grow your own food? To learn how to garden? Or to get connected with a gardening project in your neighborhood? Yarducopia might be able to help. [You can read more and sign up on our website.](#) Or reach out to garden@akaction.org

The AK School Garden Network is planning to re-start meetings before the next school year begins in August. [Their Facebook Page](#) continues to be a good point of contact, and they released the [results of their last survey of ASD School Gardens as a pdf.](#)

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 continues to recruit **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 - anchorgardensanc@gmail.com.

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