

# EAST END GARDEN COLLABORATIVE

3RD COLLABORATIVE NEWSLETTER

## NEXT MEETING

WEDNESDAY,

APRIL 17, 2019

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

AT MILBY HIGH SCHOOL

1601 BROADWAY ST

## SAVE THE DATE

### GARDEN WORK DAY/BLOCK PARTY

APRIL 13TH, 9 AM - 1 PM

GALLEGOS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

BRISCOE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### GARDENING CLASSES

MARCH 30TH, 9: 30 AM - 12 PM

URBAN HARVEST: BASIC ORGANIC

VEGETABLE GARDENING CLASS

HOUSTON MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCE

## READY FOR PLANTING

### END OF MARCH:

ARTICHOKE, PLANT

ARUGULA, SEED

BASIL, TRANSPLANT, PLANT, OR SEED

BEAN (ADUZUKI, EDAMAME, LIMA), SEED

BEAN (SNAP/STRING/GREEN), SEED

BOK CHOI/PAK CHOI, PLANT OR SEED

CANTALOUPE, PLANT

CUCUMBER, SEED OR PLANT

EPAZOTE, SEED OR PLANT

OREGANO, ALL

PAPALO, WINGED SEED

PEANUT, SEED

WATERMELON, SEED OR PLANT

YACON, TUBER

YU CHOY, SEED

(FOUND ON THE URBAN HARVEST PLANTING GUIDE)

## OUR LINKS:



[WWW.ELCENTRODECORAZON.ORG/EAST-END-GARDEN-COLLABORATIVE/](http://WWW.ELCENTRODECORAZON.ORG/EAST-END-GARDEN-COLLABORATIVE/)



[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EASTENDGARDENCOLLABORATIVE/](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EASTENDGARDENCOLLABORATIVE/)



## MEETING NOTES FOR MARCH 20TH

Special thanks to everyone who made it to our meeting last Wednesday! We had 8 gardens who attended this meeting and 9 non-garden agencies. At this meeting we had Harris County Precinct 2 Representative Francisco Castillo who shared his interest in our collaborative and would like to introduce community gardens in other areas outside of the East End. Below you will find specific topics covered in our meeting. We would like to highlight the change of our collaborative name. From now on, as members of this collaborative, we will be known as "Growing Roots East End Network" or G.R.E.E.N. for short. We hope you will support our collaborative and share the information we are providing to you with others around the community. We now have a web page on the El Centro de Corazón Website and a Facebook page. Please follow us. We will be sharing information of upcoming events. Make sure to share any information you find interesting to our pages including gardening, education, or community articles that could benefit members in this collaborative.

## NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 17TH

We will continue to visit other East End gardens for our monthly meetings. Ms. Rowena Verdin has invited us to Milby High School to visit their vegetable garden, fruit orchard, and growing prairie space. The PEACE Club at Milby has inspired environmental friendly practices in their school and is one of the most successful clubs we have seen yet. Please come out and visit this school and share ideas on ways to improve our Houston community and local schools. Special speakers attending will be shared on the agenda prior to our meeting.

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM/EAST END FARMERS MARKET

Mr. Roy Rodriguez, from the East End Management District, has begun promoting an entrepreneurship opportunity for children involved in the school gardens to sell crops grown at the local East End Farmers Market. He will be providing our own booth at the Farmers Market, where we will be able to organize a schedule to staff the booths through rotations from different schools. We would be able to sell produce, starter plants, seed pellets gathered from our gardens. We will be sending out more information about this opportunity very soon. Keep a look out!

<http://eastendhouston.com/market/>

CONTINUE



## INTRODUCING LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES TO GARDENS

Mr. Karim Alston is going to begin introducing little free libraries at the Gallegos Elementary Garden, with the help of Urban Harvest and the support of students from UH. We believe this would be great opportunity to provide visitors of the garden an extra resource and a means of sharing knowledge. We would be able to provide children books, gardening/environmental books, gardening articles, and even seeds in these little libraries. If you are interested in starting a little free library at your location feel free to contact Ms. Emily Foxman at Urban Harvest. They have started a little free library program and are providing little free libraries around the Houston area for Urban Harvest Affiliate gardens. They can provide paint and replenish books for the libraries associated to your garden. For more information of little free libraries visit:

<https://littlefreelibrary.org/>

## BUILDING POLLINATOR GARDENS

Mr. Jose Alducin, from Houston Wilderness, has an opportunity to assist in creating pollinator gardens at different sites throughout the Houston area to promote health related initiatives. This agency is finding funding to provide these pollinator gardens to primarily Hispanic serving schools. Education can be provided of pollinators found in our area, specifically the Monarch Butterfly, to the schools who decide to participate in this opportunity. If you would like to have a pollinator garden at your school or garden email us and we can put you in contact with Mr. Alducin.

<http://houstonwilderness.org/>

## EDUCATION ON POLLINATOR GARDENS

Ms. Claudia Gee Vassar, from Houston Botanic Garden, has invited us to participate in a Saturday Series with Katy Prairie Conservancy.

**March 30 with Katy Prairie Conservancy**

- **9:00 am Family Workshop, \$5 per child** *Birds, Butterflies, and Other Critters of the Katy Prairie!* Register at: <https://bit.ly/2Fomzt7>
- **10:00 am Walking Tour of the Future Garden Site**
- **11:00 am Adult Workshop, \$10 per guest** *Plant for Pollinators! Native Plant Workshop* Each participant will receive one free plant and more will be available for purchase. Register at: <https://bit.ly/2WgdVDS>

For more information, visit: <http://hbg.org/engage>

## UPDATE OF WORK DAYS AT EAST END GARDENS

**March 2nd:** At the **Magnolia MSC Garden**, Christi shared that they had 20 volunteers who assisted in building 3-4 beds, beautifying the garden and planting peach tree saplings. They will have regular Gardening Days on Saturdays and Mondays open to all community members.

**March 23rd:** At the **Black Navarro School Garden**, they had about 20 volunteers as well, who helped beautify the garden and planting fruit trees provided by Urban Harvest. They have a vertical aquaponics system that will grow herbs and smaller plants. Aquaponics works as a natural waterway-- creating its own closed ecosystem. The plants receive their nutrients from the fish waste and the plants clean and purify the water for the freshwater fish. This is a great special feature Navarro has added to their garden.

Special Thanks to everyone who has assisted on these Garden Work Days!

## URBAN HARVEST INTRODUCING DOUBLE UP SNAP BENEFITS

Ms. Emily Foxman shared information over the Double Up Food Bucks. This opportunity is working at participating food markets, where Double Up matches SNAP purchases, up to \$20 for local produce to increase the support of family farmers and provide low-income families with fresh fruits and vegetables. Please promote these amazing incentives at your location. Bring this East End community closer to affordable fresh food options and support our local farmers markets.



## GRANTS

*Don't forget to apply for grants for you garden! Rep. Gallegos have mentioned opportunities for grant matching! For more information be sure to contact Mr. Jorge Olvera.*

**Captain Planet Foundation:** Open to educators who are interested in receiving support for students to design and implement hands-on environmental solutions.

<https://captainplanetfoundation.org/grants/>

**Project Learning Tree Greenworks Grant:** Offers grants up to \$1,000- to schools and youth organizations for environmental service-learning projects that link classroom to the real world. Deadline to apply is *September 30, 2019*.

<https://www.plt.org/resources/greenworks-grants/>

**United Way Community Building Grant:** Supporting community groups for innovative health and human service projects. Grants from \$1,000 to \$10, 000 provide funding for short-term projects or one-time expenses that will have a positive impact in the community. Webinar for detailing the grant process and how to access the grant portal to submit applications for Cycle 1 will be available on April 3, 2019.

<https://www.unitedwayhouston.org/nonprofit-connection/grant-opportunities>

## RESOURCES FOR YOUR GARDEN

**ReUse Warehouse:** The Reuse Warehouse provides the community with excess building materials that would otherwise be dumped in local landfills. Bring Faculty ID from your school.

*9003 N Main St, Houston, TX 77022*

**Houston Community Toolbank:** This ToolBank provides community-based organizations with tools, equipment & expertise. The ToolBank lends/rents equipment needed for cheap.

*1215 Gazin St, Houston, TX 77020*

**Keep Houston Beautiful:** Organization leading this city's beautification, litter reduction, and recycling education. Provides education and volunteers.

<http://www.houstonbeautiful.org/>

**Farm Dirt:** Great provider of amazing compost. Connect with them to get discounted rates for your school or community garden. *Call: 281-552-8119* or *Email: email@farmdirtcompost.com*

**Microlife:** Provides great organic fertilizer that can be very beneficial for your garden. They have discounted prices for school gardens and non-profit organizations.

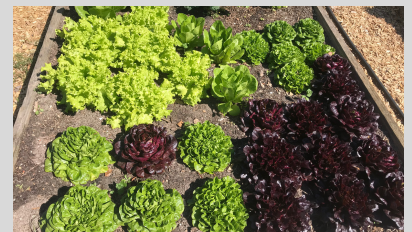
<https://www.microlifefertilizer.com/>

## VISIT US!

Our name may be changing on all social media. We will share the updated links with you very soon.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EastEndGardenCollaborative/>

Website: <https://www.elcentrodecorazon.org/east-end-garden-collaborative/>



## CONTACT INFORMATION

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