

# **Teaching Garden Monthly Update for September 2021**

Master Gardeners,

Your August Teaching Garden Monthly update report follows:

## **Monocot Gardens Team Leader: Penny McGrath**

- The plants are struggling in the heat but are hanging on. The Blue Eye grass are still blooming. The grasses are blooming now also. The most outstanding blooming grass is the Indian Grass (*Sorghastrum nutan*)—with its delicate yellow blooms and blue green foliage.
- One of my "Spring box specials", *Acidanthera* (*Gladiolus murielae*) bloomed. It's tolerating the heat quite well. One of my other "Spring box special", *Crococsmia* (*Crococsmia X crocosmiiflora* 'Lucifer) also bloomed.
- I'm still working on the garden plan and hope to have it finished in a couple of weeks. I'll send you, Keith, and Amy a copy when I'm done.







## Canopy Garden Team Leader: Laura Corl

- We made some changes this last month. Two mallow hibiscus are now in the garden in different areas. The team planted some succulents and various phlox in the boat. and just outside the boat is one of the mallow hibiscus. A wax mallow was added and over by the camelia, numerous ginger lilies and one of the mallow hibiscus. There is a grouping of hellebores under the oak tree. All the hostas have been grouped together under the holly tree., and only the lirioppe are now next to the walkway.
- Mike's plant is no longer on the porch or in the garden.
- We plan to redo the sign on the back of the boat as it did not weather well.

## Shade Garden Team Leader: Pat O'Connor and Donna Ambrose

- We sent our Mission Statement, but will now require some changes. We are looking to redo the Shade Garden. With the availability of water there are plants we can add to our garden, trying to have four season interests, etc. We are in

the first stages of that process, what we want to keep, what we don't want. We will have the three hollies along the trailer removed. They don't look well.

- Donna and I spent some time, along with John, weeding, picking up trash, pulling out Virginia Creeper, cutting back some Jessamine, and pulling out some "volunteers." Will be keeping an eye on one Buttonbush. One was taken out as it wasn't looking healthy.

## **Four Seasons Garden** Team Leader: Yen Bao assisted by Dale Shelley

## **Dry Garden** Team Leader: Mary Trosien

- September 2021 Update: There are a lot of changes coming ahead for the garden. Don Izbicki and Mary Trosien met this past month to look at revamping the area to make it more accessible to passersby walkers as well as creating various zones within the garden to create cohesiveness. We are creating a mulched pathway from the Rec Center parking area to the trailer parking lot. We will be moving the large stones, a bush and plants to make this happen. We will be grouping the existing plants in various areas of the gardens to control the spread and for show impact. We plan to add available succulents from the Arboretum nursery. Our hardscape for now is the small non-working water fountain. We added a purslane flowering plant, hens & chicks, succulents, and existing sedum. Because of the season and travel conflict, we will begin the project in stages beginning at the end of October.

## **Bird and Butterfly Garden** Team Leader: Becky Greenwald

- Activities for September included adding educational materials to the bin mounted on the post you put in, weeding as needed, and acquiring some additional perennials to be planted after the irrigation project is completed.

## **Elaine's Garden** Team Leaders Janet Grubbs and Rebecka Jones

- In Sept. we installed a block edging around Elaine's Garden to create a better definition between the grass and garden in addition to giving the city workers a hard edge to aim for with their weed wackers!
- We also purchased and installed a few new plants - Aster novi angliae 'Purple Dome' and Geranium 'Rozanne'. We will also be replacing some of the tall asters we currently have with two of the Ginger Lilies from the nursery.

## **Sensory Garden** Team Leaders: Denise Bennett and Toni McKenna

- Nothing to report. Both Denise and Toni are on vacation.

## Herb Garden Team Leader: Lauren Ragsac

- Nothing new to report for the spiral herb garden. The bronze fennel perished. I'm waiting for this drought to be over before installing any more plants to avoid having to do a lot of supplemental watering. I have worked up a wish list of plants I would like to add to the garden, some of which should be available at the nursery arboretum by end of October.

## Turf Garden Team Leader: John Birckbichler

- Normal maintenance

## Weed Garden Team Leader: Denise Bennett and John

Birckbichler

- A shade barrier was added to help protect the plants from too much sun exposure.
- The 2 potted American Yellowwood trees were returned to the Arboretum nursery

## Woodland Garden Team Leader: Tenny Hizer-Walsh and Donel

Moose

- The Cup plants and Golden rod were removed, the East Coast Redwood planted and several of the other plants were pruned. We also did extensive weeding and cleaning of the garden. More to come.

## Wetland Garden Team Leaders: Ed and Linda Bradley

- Nothing to report

## General Maintenance Team Leader: John Birckbichler

- Normal garden cleanup and debris removal
- Pruning of the various trees in the Woodland Garden and the aurelia in the Bird and Butterfly Garden
- Watering as needed.
- Removed 3 Holly trees from the Shade Garden in preparation for the redesign
- Fertilized and mulched the fruitless olive, the white flowering magnolia, trimmed the Caroline Jessamine, repositioned the sign next to the Herb Garden and prepared for the installation of the irrigation system.
- Continued efforts to eradicate voles from the Four Seasons Garden

## New additions to the Gardens:

- East Coast red cedar was planted next to the tool shed across the sidewalk from the Woodland Garden.