

# Simonton's Garden of Awesomeness

03/18/13

Listed below is the basic garden club meeting information:

Garden Club 3rd Meeting

Thursday, March 28 (3:15 PM - 4:15 PM)

The topic of the meeting is soil. Some of the questions we will discuss are as follows:

What is all the fuss about soil? Why is it important to us and to plants?

Please head to the school garden for the meeting.

## *Garden Update: Volume 4*

### Project 1: Follow-Up About Garden Prep Work

There are three remaining beds which require soil amendments and tilling. It is our plan to obtain donations of soil amendments so the tilling may occur before the end of March 2013.

### Project 2: Follow-up About Seed Planting

At the February 21st garden club meeting, the garden club participants made seed pots from small plastic drinking cups and small strips of damp newspaper. Becca Colvin, a 4-H AmeriCorps Vista, led activity and the discussion about the planting of seeds as an at home activity. Ms. Colvin gave the children a small bag of potting soil, vegetable seeds, and instructions about planting and caring for the seeds. The children took home green leaf lettuce seeds, green eggplant, and purple eggplant seeds. The garden club participants were asked to bring the seedlings to the March club meeting for transplanting into the garden.

Prior to spring break, I was told some of the lettuce and eggplant seeds had not sprouted. Therefore, the garden club participants will need to direct sow lettuce and eggplant seeds directly into the garden when they return to school from spring break.

During the middle of March, some marigold, African pearl daisies, and basil seeds were planted in seed pots. They were planted by a garden club participant during a garden work day.

### Project 3: Follow-up About Building Up a Compost Pile

More compost material was added to the compost pile.

We are looking to have an enclosed compost bin added to the garden this spring.

### Project 5: Tree Planting

Simonton's tree planting day will occur sometime after spring break. The scheduling of the event is still in the works.

Tree donations are still being requested for the school garden. So far, the following trees have been donated to the school garden:

Two 15 gallon tangelo trees  
Two box fruit trees  
Two 5 gallon peach trees  
One 15 gallon elm tree  
One 5 gallon Chinese Elm tree

*The school garden can accommodate one more fruit tree and five additional shade trees such as Chinese Elm trees. Will you please let us know if you are interested in donating a tree to the school garden? A donation of a tree itself or an in-kind donation is greatly appreciated. Please contact Sherri Crosslin at 480-656-9557 if you have any questions or comments about the tree donations. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration regarding this request.*

*Each tree donor will be recognized during the tree planting event, given credit during a press release about the event, and a plaque about the donation will be placed beside each tree.*