

June 28, 2012

Dear Summer Garden Keeper,

Thank you for volunteering to help maintain the Troy School Garden! We are so excited to have this garden that provides fresh produce to the school cafeteria, serves as an outdoor classroom to learn about the local food system, and is an opportunity to build meaningful relationships with our larger community.

There are many small tasks that can be done in the garden on a regular basis. Please do not feel pressured to complete everything. If any one task or combination of tasks seems too overwhelming, just do what you can. Feel free to bring a friend or child with you. Aside from the necessary upkeep, a garden can be a fantastic place to reflect, relax, observe, and feel closer to nature.

You are welcome to come to the garden as often as you would like during your assigned week. We ask that you contact us by email or phone at the end of the week to check in. You may, of course, contact us at any point with urgent updates. When you do any work in the garden, please note in the garden journal the date and what you did that day. **The journal will be in a plastic bag by the garden sign.** If you would like to use any specific garden tools, please bring them with you as the garden does not have a place to store tools.

We hope you enjoy this opportunity to be in the school garden and contribute to the health of our students and community. **Enclosed you will find a map of the garden, a list of garden tasks, and a photo guide to some garden pests and common weeds.** Please see below for your week of garden management. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to call or email.

Thank you for your generosity and happy gardening!

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Your week to maintain the garden is: **July 16th-22 and August 6-12**