

LETTUCE GROW

NOVEMBER, 2012 NEWSLETTER



Dear Lettuce Grow Volunteers: As you're putting your gardens to bed for the fall, **we'd love to hear from you!** Make sure to fill out the attached monthly log for October and send it back to me as soon as possible.

See your email for the flow chart that explains how the volunteer process works with the Department of Corrections. As you can see, getting final clearance can take some time. If you have just started the approval process with the Department of Corrections, I'm here to support you and keep this process moving. Let me know if you have questions.

LETTUCE GROW GARDEN FOUNDATION UPDATE

Since our last email, Sarah gave a presentation about Lettuce Grow at the Green Prisons Conference in Indianapolis. Her co-presenter manages the garden at San Quentin prison in California. One thing she took away from the conference is that the work we do is unique - no other prison system in the country offers the high quality garden education that you teach every week to Oregon prisoners.

KGW, the Portland NBC affiliate, **ran a great story** on Lettuce Grow in October. The story interviewed a former inmate about how our program turned his life around. Thank you, Cathy Marshall, for

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KNOW FOLKS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING FOR LETTUCE GROW, EITHER AS AN INSTRUCTOR OR EMPLOYING STRENGTHS IN FUNDRAISING, NETWORKING, WEB DESIGN, GRANT WRITING OR SOMETHING ELSE? GET THEM IN TOUCH WITH OUR VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR, JILLIAN GLASGOW, AT: VOL.LETTUCEGROW@GMAIL.COM.

DID YOU KNOW? PEOPLE GIVE TO NONPROFITS MORE AROUND THE HOLIDAY SEASON THAN ANY OTHER TIME OF YEAR. SEE PAGE 2 FOR INFORMATION ON HOW YOU CAN HELP US RAISE END-OF-YEAR FUNDS!

your insightful reporting on our program! And coming up, in November, we will meet with the Department of Corrections, OSU Master Gardener Program, Marion Polk Food Share, Applied Ecology Institute, and Oregon Food Bank to discuss ways we can collaborate to gain more support for our program, including applying for grants. We will let you know the goals and plans that come out of those meetings.

KEEPING OUR PROGRAM GOING

Now is the time for year-end fundraising, and **we need your help**. You are the best ambassador for our organization, and we need your help reaching more people who can help us continue to grow! Can you mail our fundraising letter to five of your friends or family members? It's easy - we send you the fundraising letter and envelope. You write a note to your friend on the letter and mail it. Every contribution, no matter the amount, is important. Email me, and let me know how many letters to send to you.

GARDENING RESOURCES: TOOLS, TOOLS, TOOLS!

We couldn't grow all the food we grow without them. Which are your favorite tools, and what are some of the unique challenges of using garden tools in the prison setting? **Send me your thoughts about the best tools** and challenges at your site, and I'll share the information in the next newsletter.

More attention is being paid to hand tools these days as more people are gardening and starting small scale farms. The National Center for Appropriate Technology, has a helpful webinar, Tools for Small Scale Crop Production, about hand tools and using them correctly. There's a useful chart to help you add tools and infrastructure as your garden increases in size. You can find other interesting videos and webinars on the ATTRA website (National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service). While the website's focus is farming, much of the information should still be useful to the large gardens you work in. Let us know what you think.

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DO YOU RUN INTO PROBLEMS WITH CURRICULUM? DO YOU EVER FEEL ISOLATED IN YOUR TEACHING EFFORTS WITH LETTUCE GROW? IS ONE OF YOUR STUDENTS HAVING DIFFICULTY UNDERSTANDING THE SUBJECT MATERIAL? CONTACT YOUR EDUCATION MANAGER, LAUREN ZAVREL, FOR IDEAS ON HOW TO ACCOMMODATE STUDENTS OF VARYING (DIS)ABILITIES AND LEARNING STYLES, AND TO CONNECT WITH OTHER INSTRUCTORS. EDU.LETTUCEGROW@GMAIL.COM