

If you missed the October 8 meeting of the Community Garden Club, here's what you need to know

1. The sewage spill that has been in the news occurred downstream from the Water's Edge Park garden, thus having little to no impact on the garden.
2. Soil samples have been taken and sent for analysis for heavy metals and other contaminants. We expect the results in two weeks or so. We will notify you when we receive the results and give any needed further instruction.
3. Do not eat anything remaining in your garden. The garden was completely under water and produce could be contaminated. If you have perennials in your garden we suggest you cut them back and allow new growth next season.
4. All gardeners are asked to plant red clover seeds as a cover crop to dilute any contaminants and replenish the soil. Seeds were handed out at the meeting. If you do not have your seeds, contact Oly Olin at 803-280-3002 to arrange to pick them up at his home (6186 Jack Thomas Drive) or have him leave the seeds in your plot.
5. We have sent in a work order to replace our dumpster. In the meantime, the large green dumpster being used by the softball club can now be used for your garden waste as you clean out your garden. Do not pile garden waste outside the garden gate any further; use the green dumpster.
6. We do not have water and do not know when the pump will be replaced. The ground is wet enough to germinate the red clover seed when it is lightly covered with soil.
7. Go ahead and plant the red clover cover crop as soon as you have cleared your garden of debris.
8. If you are unable to remove your garden debris and plant the cover crop, please contact the garden managers, Pam Rumney (410-693-5987) or Oly Olin (803-280-3002) so we can make arrangements to deal with your plot.

9. When the red clover cover crop starts to bloom, you must either turn the whole plant over into your soil or clip off the top and turn the root system over in your soil. Do not pull it out. The plants and roots will provide nutrients back into the soil when you turn it over. Otherwise, you lose the benefit of planting the cover crop. Also, you do not want to have the clover go from blossom into seed because you will then have a crop of weeds. Timing is everything.

10. If you are missing items from your garden, check the piles of items at the shed end of the garden and by the shed.

11. The club has documented our situation for the Homeowners Association Board as requested. We have funds in our bank account and we also expect to be recipients of the October 12th Tailgaters fund raiser for Water's Edge Park.