



BRRALLIANCE INC.
Building Bridges to a Brilliant Future



Garden Patch



Introduction

Welcome to 2014 and the 4th year of the Garden Patch Newsletter. As with so many of our gardens it is time for us to move some things around and freshen up the garden with our new location on facebook.

This is an invitation to all community gardeners and gardeners who live in the Black Rock, Riverside, Grant Amherst and West Hertel Neighborhoods to contribute to the Garden Patch Newsletter.

As you know we will be featuring a lot of information about our community gardens and highlighting some of our gardening events like the garden walk. Keep us in mind if you find any useful hints for our gardens.

This site is sponsored by the BRRAlliance Inc., a not for profit group dedicated to the betterment of our communities. We have dedicated this newsletter to seeds and those wonderful seed catalogs. We all look at them and just think only a few months until we see the early April tulips!

Qtr 1 –2014 edition



Don't forget to visit or email
www.brrgardenwalk.com

Or email

brrtourofsgardens@yahoo.com

Events of Interest

Esser St Garden will be holding an international dinner as a fund raiser for the garden in early April. Stay tuned for more information.

Picking Seeds and Seed Start-up



Check this out- Ten years ago a New York State librarian had the great idea of adding seed packets to his branch's offerings. This project is now known as the Hudson Valley Seed Library. at
www.richmondgrowsseeds.org.

This information came from an article in the Humane society publication. You never know where you find interesting items.

Picking seeds: A good seed is one that has been dried properly and is free of mold. Gardeners save seeds from year to year and it is time to take a look at how well the seeds have stored over the winter. If you have not saved seeds or need something new for the garden it is the perfect time to look at all those seed catalogs which I am sure are coming to your house.

Seed starter- there are many commercial mixes available but this year you may wish to opt for an organic option. There are many recipes online but one mix includes; compost, loam, decayed leaves, rough sand and seaweed meal.

Lighten up- about a month before our last frost date (which is May) you can start your seeds. Cool varieties such as peas can be started much earlier. To prevent spindly plants hang a 40 watt light above the plants. Keep plants a few inches from lights lowering or raising as needed.

Don't drown the seeds- Keep seed starter moist but not soggy. Cover seeds until they sprout and then moisten gently with a spray bottle.