

**TECG - Newsletter #3**  
**Trinity Educational Community Garden**  
**May 2026**

Greetings TECG Gardeners! We are in the middle of spring, it's been a while since our last newsletter, so there is plenty of information to share. Here is the update in the form of a list:

\*We have 29/30 beds reserved for the year!

\*We enjoyed a successful Grand Opening Celebration. Along with an opening presentation and BBQ lunch, we had a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony conducted by the Los Osos Chamber of Commerce and TECG Gardener, Ann Newland, graciously conducted a presentation about herbs. The Los Osos Kiwanis were invaluable as always and helped with set-up and take down. There were well over 100 folks in attendance, including County Supervisor, Bruce Gibson, and Supervisor Candidate Jim Dantona.

\*After a ridiculously hot and dry March came a cooler April with a few showers. The drip irrigation system has recently had a few leaks, and sometimes the large valves at the cubes haven't been shut off completely resulting in a slow drip. Consequently, our harvested water is at a premium. We will all need to be diligent in regards to watching for leaks, turning off the valves and conserving water as much as possible. The large valves at the cubes are difficult to open and close and an improved valve system is in the works. For now, please make sure that the moving 'tab' on the valve connects to the fixed 'tab'. Unless there is a leak, the cubes will only be filled on Tuesday mornings, so please conserve! In regards to water conservation, I have found that the soil in the beds holds moisture quite well, and I "borrowed" the idea of mulching my bed with straw. TECG Gardener, Vicki Conte, mulched her bed with straw and I found that it increases the moisture holding capacity very well. Unless there is a leak, the cubes will only be filled on Tuesday mornings, so please conserve!

\*The garden continuously provides learning opportunities! Recently, I have learned from TECG gardener and benefactor, Eric Everitt, that rodents such as rabbits and mice will gnaw the lower trunk of trees to try to maintain a meadow habitat. I also learned from TECG gardener Krista that comfrey can attract important nutrients to where it is planted and this can benefit neighboring plants. I love herbs and we are very grateful that Ann Newland has planted the TECG Herb Garden in Bed #24 or #25. Ann also is extremely generous with her knowledge about herbs, flowers, composting and more.

\*In regards to the compost, new signs have been ordered that will make the compost system easier to navigate. The finished compost (Ready Pile) will eventually be available for TECG gardeners. First, it will be used to plant the remaining fruit trees that are to be planted in June. I plan to hold a gopher cage making session in June to provide these trees with adequate protection. We will also be creating a drip irrigation system for the orchard. The following is the information that will be posted on the signs:

## TECG COMPOSTING PROCEDURES

\*Please dump **NEW, FRESH** *green waste in the large FEEDER* pile on the ground near the shed. This green waste will be shredded then taken in portions to the left side of the compost bins in concrete blocks. This is the '**BREWING**' **PILE** and is not ready for use yet. This material will then be transferred to the right side of the compost bins. This is the '**READY**' **PILE**, which will be available for garden use.

\*Please do not put *ANY* material in the **GREEN BOX (WITH THE RED BOW)**. This is for **ORGANIC COMPOST ONLY**.

\*Please do not put *ANY* material in the **EARTHWORM HOTEL**. Put *ALL KITCHEN WASTE* in the **ORANGE RECEPTACLE** *OUTSIDE the garden gate*. Scott will transfer this **KITCHEN WASTE** to the **EARTHWORM HOTEL** .

\*Everyone involved with TECG is working voluntarily through Trinity United Methodist Church. There are no paid positions and no set hours, so we appreciate your patience as we work through the challenges with the watering system, signage, and other communication issues. The volunteers with our Tuesday Work Crew, Pastor Les, our Administrative Assistant Mary Anne, the TECG Governing Board and myself are working hard to make the garden successful for everyone.

\*Thank you gardeners for making sure gates are closed and weeds are pulled around your bed. Happy gardening, enjoy the spring growing season and send out hopes for late season rain!

Scott Danielson  
TECG Manager