

# OVVF NEWS

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Karen Andersen, Editor



Jamie Lozano, Environmental Specialist for the City of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works introduces the 2006 Los Angeles area Waste Reduction Awards Program (WRAP) winners at the 7th annual WRAP reception held on Wednesday, March 21st, 2007, at the Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center. Ocean View Farms, front and center during the event, was being honored for its 12th consecutive WRAP award. Thanks to everyone at OVF for helping us achieve this success.

## From the Editor's Desk

### A SRING IN MY STEP

Each gardener anticipates the arrival of Spring as our seedlings develop their roots and grow into full maturity. Some of our seeds sprout and others lay fallow. A moment in a garden offers surprises that encourage and delight our senses. As I strolled up the hill from my garden for the last time, I inhaled the intoxicating aroma from Deb's fragrant jasmine. So it has come to this, I thought, my unplanned farewell from OVF. My life has recently become a whirlwind of activity, exhaustion, and challenge which I am anxious to transform into a more balanced lifestyle.

One of the gifts I enjoy is the realm of exploration and opportunity disguised beneath the sometimes scary veil of the unknown. "Oh dear, I don't know what to do," cries the voice of victimhood. . . Clinging to fear, procrastination and helplessness are a sure path to defeat. These often caution me to go no further, while kept under the false illusion of comfort and limitation. I was in that seemingly unwelcome territory five months ago.

When it was apparent that one familiar door had become permanently closed, I became more and more attracted to what was hidden behind door #2. Reluctantly I began the 45 mile trip back and forth to my new work location in Thousand Oaks. I dreaded the commute imagining that I would be stuck in traffic with the weapon of higher gas prices questioning my motives. Determined to enjoy my adventure, I decided to open the window further before my first drive to work in February. Instead of joining the mass of vehicles on

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## TOMATO-BRATION!

SAVE THE DATE!



SATURDAY, MARCH 31

10:00 AM

### A SPECTACULAR TOMATO SALE & LECTURE

featuring esteemed tomato grower,  
Barbara Spencer, owner of  
Windrose Farms, Paso Robles

Saturday, April 14

Workday 9:00 • Potluck 12:00  
General Mtg. 1:00

# GardenMaster's Report

**WHERE DO I PUT IT?** When you dig up false garlic or nut grass it is a good idea to have a pail or plastic bag with you to put it into immediately. Do not throw it onto the pathway to pick up later or mix it in with your other material. The nut seeds and nodules attached to the main root will fall off and seed themselves into the path.

When you take other weeds to the compost area for shredding and you have the "bad seeds" with you at this time look to the left of the green material area and you will see two green and one black L.A. city barrels.

Put the "bad seeds" into either green barrel by removing them from the container you put them in. Do not put plastic bags or any other items in the green barrels. **PUT YOUR TRASH ITEMS IN THE BLACK BARREL.**



If the barrels are full or not there, take your "bad seeds" container and all to the dumpsters in the parking lot for disposal. The L.A. city barrels are put out on Centinela Avenue for pick up on Thursdays.

**DO NOT** put the "bad seeds" in the green waste pile. This causes the shredding crew to have to stop the assembly line process and pick out all the "bad seeds" from the green waste material wasting time and energy.

All other weed material is compostable including devil grass and may be deposited in the shredding

pile. If you are not sure what nut grass and false garlic look like check out the colored pictures on the bulletin board in the shed.

**FOUL BALLS** Do not park your car near the backstop during ball games as you may have your window broken by a baseball. Little league has no insurance for this and if you have a deductible on your insurance policy you may be looking at a \$500 bill to get your window fixed. A Cadillac windshield was broken a week ago. Park over in PH4 north field and walk back.

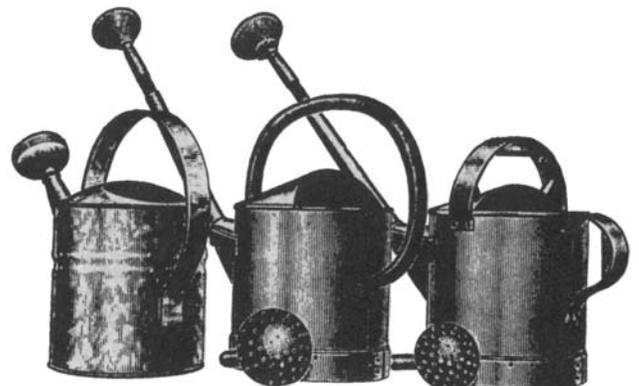
Thanks for listening. And may all your tomatoes be big and juicy.

— Ed Mosman, Gardenmaster



## **WE HAVE SEEN THE ENEMY (FALSE GARLIC) AND IT IS IN OUR COMPOST**

**False garlic resembles a large chive plant. Its tiny corms (shown here as white, but are also hard-to-see dirt brown) are clustered in a tight bunch of bulblets at the plant's base. These "bad seeds" are easily overlooked when pulling out the plants and cause major weeding nightmares for all of us. Please be aware and diligent about placing false garlic in black trash bins.**



# TAKE OFF YOUR GLOVES AND TAKE CHARGE



Are you filled with ideas about how to improve our community garden. Are you interested in helping shape the future of OVF? If so, why not run for election and become a member of the Ocean View Farms board of directors.

The OVF board consists of 16 members each elected to a two year term. The board meets for about an hour or so every other month to discuss relevant OVF business. Board meetings are usually held at the garden, the third Saturday of every odd numbered month. One half of the board positions are open for election each year, this years positions and candidates so far are:

## POSITIONS / CANDIDATES (to date)

Gardenmaster	Ed Mosman
Membership Secretary	Carrie Manaugh
Independent Project Monitor	Stephan Strati
Vice-President	<b>Open</b>

## UPPER PHASE REPRESENTATIVES

One	Andrew Sacks
Two	<b>Open</b>
Three	Clark Sheridan
Four	Ronda Ross

If you are interested in running for office please speak to Frank Harris at the General Meeting on April 14. Or contact him by email: [frank@oceanviewfarms.net](mailto:frank@oceanviewfarms.net)

## YOUR TAX-EXEMPT DONATIONS WILL HELP OVF EXPAND PROGRAMS

As a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation OVF is always pleased to accept any monetary donations. (All donations may be tax exempt to the full extent of the law.) Please send your contributions addressed to: Ocean View Farms, Attn: Frank Harris / Personnel, PO Box 66534, Mar Vista, CA 90066. Your tax-exempt donation will help expand our educational and community outreach programs for children and adults.



## ATTENTION ALL WHOLE FOODS SHOPPERS

On Friday, April 20, 2007, 5% of the net sales from Whole Foods Market located at National and Barrington will be donated to Ocean View Farms.

Three times a year, individual Whole Foods Market stores hold 5 Percent Days (or Community Giving Days), donating 5% of that day's net sales to a local or regional non-profit or educational organization.

This year, our nearby Whole Foods Market located at National and Barrington, has chosen Ocean View Farms, Inc., a non-profit community garden located at the intersection of Centinela and Rose Avenues as a recipient of this wonderful gift.

Shop early and shop well! Hours are from 7 am - 10 pm.



The Tuesday morning shredding crew enjoys coffee and treats behind the future home of our Community Herb and Children's Garden.

## HERB AND CHILDREN'S EDUCATION GARDEN BEGINS TO TAKE SHAPE

OVF would like to thank garden member Maurice Vickers (Phase II, F35) for spearheading this ambitious project. Anyone interested in helping Maurice, either working in the project or with donations of herbs, flowers or decoration can leave a note for Maurice in the mailbox at his plot or [frank@oceanviewfarms.net](mailto:frank@oceanviewfarms.net).



The "Pizza" Garden (above) and a colorful Hummingbird Garden will be a highlights of the Children's Garden portion of this new project located on the main path below the big pine.

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the freeway, I decided to drive along Pacific Coast Highway and through scenic Malibu Canyon. What I first perceived as a road-block slowly became an enjoyable daily commute. However, what surprised me the most was the tranquil beauty and enchantment of the countryside. My drives became effortless, and a constant source of amusement and wonder as I approached the beautiful landscapes. Instead of arriving at work frazzled by traffic delays, I began my day in a positive mindset ready to tackle whatever challenges occurred.

My home is in escrow and I will be moving to another one very soon. As I prepare to shift my focus, I would like to leave each of you with the gifts of Spring. May renewal and transformation become your constant companions. If you believe that change is impossible, remember that the hope of a brighter future still remains. All it takes is a slight shift in focus, comfort with the pregnant unknown, reliance on your intuition, and the belief that perceived obstacles are just that, a wake up call to open our awareness and enjoy finding a detour to another more beautiful destination! May you be blessed along life's journey as you sow the seeds of opportunity and joy in your gardens, and through the significance of your special, unique and rewarding lifestyle. Thank you for being a part of mine.

— Karen Andersen, editor

## DO-IT-YOURSELF FUNGUS FIGHTERS

Spring at OVF means foggy mornings and dewy evenings, favorite climate conditions for fungus infestations. Here are several non-toxic ways to fight blackspot, powdery mildew and damping off.

### BLACKSPOT

#### Baking soda and soap

1 quart water, 1 tsp baking soda, 1/2 tsp liquid Ivory soap. Shake and spray on tops and bottoms of leaves on a cloudy day. Bright sun may burn the leaves.

#### Cornmeal

Sprinkle 1/2 cup around plant and cover with layer of mulch. Promotes growth of 'good' fungus.

### DAMPING OFF OF SEEDLINGS

#### Chamomile tea

Soak 1 tea bag in quart of water 20 minutes. Mist over seedlings and young plants or use to water from bottom. Chamomile contains sulphur, which fights damping-off fungus.

## WORKDAY SCHEDULE

### APRIL

14 Sat 9-12 Work  
12 Potluck  
1 Gen. Mtg.  
29 Sun 1-4 Work

### MAY

12 Sat 9-12 Work  
19 Sat 9:30 Board Mtg.  
27 Sun 1-4 Work

### JUNE

9 Sat 9-12 Work  
12 Potluck  
1 Gen. Mtg.  
24 Sun 1-4 Work

For the entire year's schedule of workdays and other events, visit our website calendar: [www.oceanviewfarms.net/calendar.html](http://www.oceanviewfarms.net/calendar.html)

## JOIN US

in creating an



## HERB & CHILDREN'S EDUCATION GARDEN

For more information or to volunteer please leave your name in the Chair's box in the small shed or email [frank@oceanviewfarms.net](mailto:frank@oceanviewfarms.net)



## WANTED

### EDUCATION CHAIR

Primary responsibilities include overseeing the publication of our quarterly newsletter, arranging guest speakers to the general meetings as warranted and coordinating other OVF educational opportunities. If interested, email [frank@oceanviewfarms.net](mailto:frank@oceanviewfarms.net)

### CARPENTERS

Help maintain the retaining walls that make up OVF. Leave a note in the Gardenmaster's mailbox in the wheelbarrow shed.

### WORKDAY SUPERVISORS

Assist the Gardenmaster with the organization of the workday shifts. Each shift earns 6 hours of community credit. Limit of 2 shifts per member. Please use this email address: [gardenmaster@oceanviewfarms.net](mailto:gardenmaster@oceanviewfarms.net)

## Know Your Rules & Regs

Community hours: One hour of credit per household may also be earned by attending a General Meeting.

