

OFE Growers Newsletter for September 29, 2022

We've completed our compost lesson and the next lesson (10/13/2022 after break) will be on Soils. A major push in the gardens has been to get our fall crops planted. We have cabbage and spinach growing in the orchard and collards, broccoli, carrots, turnips, kohlrabi, lettuce, radishes, beans, and sugar snap peas planted in our main garden. We will be harvesting the sweet potatoes shortly. This is a fun process as we have to remove the vines, dig the potatoes and then hunt for them in the soil. Once harvested the sweet potatoes need to be cured for 2-3 weeks to allow the sugars to be converted into carbohydrate. It's best not to wash the sweet potatoes until you are ready to use them as the coating of residual soil actually protects the potato until the skin has hardened. All this activity is just in time for thanksgiving festivities.

As you all know from our compost lesson, we treasure our black gold and are always on the lookout for the raw materials to make more. Fall is coming and leaves will be falling. Every year we offer to take those leaves that are maybe a nuisance (not everyone has a compost area in their yard) at the school at the East end of the parking lot. The location is marked by small sign under the tall tree at the back corner of the parking lot and water tower identifying the drop off area. We are happy to accept green and brown matter!

Looking forward to our next time together!!