

DOUDEN COMMUNITY GARDEN THYMES

NEWSLETTER

March Vol III 2024

Community x Gardens = Lifelong Friendships

Beautification Initiative



The Garden Committee is very happy with the progress we have made in 2024. We have made a lot of headway in section 3 with the help of the JV Probation along with gardeners who volunteered. The garden committee was able to clear out the pathways and lay weed barrier in sections 4 and 5. Section 3 pathways are almost completely weed free. We are at the halfway mark of our goals to clear pathways for a beautiful and safe entry for all gardeners. We could have not gotten as much completed without the help of our volunteers. Please consider joining us for the next Clean Up Day March 23 from 8-10am.

What's Growing On

"I like gardening ~ it's a place where I find myself when I need to lose myself"
~Alice Sebold

Committee Meeting: Are you looking for ways to get more involved with the gardens? Please consider joining our committee. The next committee meeting is March 19th at 9am. For details call Ken Tiller (210) 665-1217.

Contact Information: This is a reminder to keep your contact information updated. It is how we can send correspondence to you regarding upcoming events. Please contact the **Gardenspots@pipoa.net** email.

Update on Clearing Beds: A notice was sent out via the PIPOA website and the "Gardenspots" email to gardeners last year regarding a deadline date for overgrown beds. Several beds were surrendered. We are on target to assign new gardeners to surrendered beds.

Garden Assistance

Is there help for those who need assistance maintaining their garden bed(s)? With the Beautification Initiative underway we have had



gardeners reach out and ask if there were any individuals willing to clean out overgrown

beds for a reasonable fee? One resource is **Jared Walton (361) 427-0111**. He will assess the bed and give a quote. If anyone wants to share another contact, please forward there information to **Gardenspots@pipoa.net**.

Don't Leaf Me

Clover A weed gaining traction as a substitute grass in lawns. Clover is brewed as a medicinal tea to help with colds or eaten raw.

Foraging is a way of life quickly gaining popularity among aficionados welcoming natural food sources

Texas Rules Legal Foraging

Harvesting or picking plants or mushrooms in public areas such as city, state, and national parks, natural preserves, historic sites, and city nature trails, or other public property is prohibited by law without permission.

Fines start at \$500-\$2100

The Exceptions

You can harvest the above-ground part of plants from Texas roadsides. You cannot dig up plants.

You are allowed to harvest 1 gallon of mushrooms per person per day, for private use only, in the National Forests of Texas –**Sam Houston, Davy Crockett, Angelina, and Sabine**. You cannot pick other plants without first getting a park ranger's permission. *Call parks for current info.

You can harvest (1) pint of fruit, nuts, or berries per person per day for personal use from the **Big Thicket National Preserve**.

You can harvest plants from private property with the landowner's permission.

Dandelion This weed is one of the easiest to identify. The leafy portion is often used in salads and soups. It is loaded with vitamins A, C and K.

Thistles Related to the globe artichoke the leaves and stalk can be eaten raw. Cook the root and stalk as a veggie.

Wolfberry First used as an immune booster believed to enhance overall health in Chinese Traditional Medicine.

Bull Nettle Is high in protein. You can eat the raw or roasted seeds. The taproot can be baked.

Chickweed is rich in vitamins and minerals when eaten It is used medicinally for inflammation and bug bites.

Info provided by <https://www.foragingtexas.com/> ~ Mark "Merriwether" Vorderbruggen