

## **BLG Newsletter for Week of April 6, 2026**

**Thank You** – to Christine U. who has a laminator and has said we are welcome to use it

- to all who have been bringing beerflats or “clamshells” the last while...for now, we seem to have enough
- and to Kelly who has expressed an interest in the “Peanut Project”...more welcome.

**Intake of New Volunteers On Hold** - As you have read in past few newsletters, BLG is temporarily closing intake of new volunteers, from Apr. 2 until May 19. If you have a friend or acquaintance who is interested in joining us, please encourage them to wait and attend the Intake Orientation at 11am on Wed., May 20. If someone approaches you during a workparty and expresses an interest in joining, you could direct them to the poster explaining the temporary closure which is posted on the gate. And, in either case, feel free to give them a membership application form

**Watering Duties** – As soon as it warms up, we need to think about daily watering of our babies in the greenhouse. A schedule will be out soon asking volunteers to “do their bit”. But for the next few weeks, we just need someone to come in either Thursday or Friday morning and another volunteer to come in Sunday afternoon. The watering that needs doing is the “sales plants” (all the flats of 4” pots and all the various clamshells and soil flats). These are to be found in the greenhouse and the screenhouse. Drop Lisa or Pat an email asap or let Lisa know at Monday or Wednesday workparty, if you are willing to do this. Either Lisa or Pat will give you on-the- job instruction the first time. If you do not have a key, we will give you one.

### **A Reminder from Lisa**

When filling pots with soil, the aim is not to have the soil level with the top of the pot! Leave around 1/2” empty. There needs to be room for watering. Equally if you are seeding/transplanting and find the soil in pots over-full, you are the quality control and need to remove some soil from over-full pots ...or tap the pots on table to settle the soil.



**Still Wanted** – 1 cup (250mL) lidded containers which are handy for many things around BLG

### **NCGS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND POTLUCK**

Each year in spring, Community Gardens holds its Annual General Meeting to get ready for the growing season ahead. The date for the 2026 AGM and potluck is Tuesday April 14 from 5:30-8pm. It will be held at the Nanaimo Unitarian Fellowship Hall at 595 Townsite Rd, Nanaimo. AGMs include a presentation of the previous calendar year's Final Reports, the review and approval of the Year End Financials and the election of the new board. This is also an opportunity to learn about the society's plans for the future, ask questions and provide feedback to the directors. This short business meeting at 5:30pm will be followed by a potluck meal at 6pm! Please email [info@ncgs.ca](mailto:info@ncgs.ca) or call [250-816-4769](tel:250-816-4769) for more information about this event.

This year there are vacancies on the board of directors. This is a great opportunity for someone to become involved with the society at the decision-making level. This is also an ideal way for current members and volunteers to learn more about how their society operates. Those considering the prospect should attend some board meetings and speak to the directors to gain a sense of the scope of commitment required and the workings of the board. We'd love to have you! Commitment is minimal and limited to 7 meetings a year. Of course, if you'd like to sit on a committee or help out in other areas, we welcome it. If you are considering sitting as a director, please get in touch with us at [info@ncgs.ca](mailto:info@ncgs.ca) prior to the AGM so that you can have all the information you need.

**Planting Guides** – So far this season, we have mostly been busy with seeding and transplanting ready for plant sales. This will continue to be a big job over the next few months but, as some of you know, we are also seeding and transplanting in our own BLG garden and we will be doing more and more of that. This year we have a new set of planting guide cards which will get clipped on the job-board as needed. (The old set were getting quite shabby and contained a lot of info that was not specific to the job.) The new ones, we hope, will be more specific and are easier to read.



One of the instructions on many cards reads: "Mark this planting with a red flag to indicate extra watering may be required." The red flags can now be found on top of the GH watercube.

## **Dates to Remember** -

Sat., Apr. 11 - 1:30 to 3:30 Workshop: "Starting Seeds Indoors" presented by Connie Kuramoto **Randi will be hosting.** For others interested in this workshop, register through Nanaimo Activity Guide

Tues., Apr. 14 – NCGS AGM & Potluck Dinner - 5:30pm to 8pm – at First Unitarian Fellowship of Nanaimo at 595 Townsite Road **Everyone welcome!**

Wed., Apr. 15 - 10:30 to 11 - Wellington Sec. Earth Science class for tour

Thurs., Apr. 16 – group from Nan. Brain Injury Society will be coming to take part in garden activities and a light lunch **Lisa and Claire still need a few more volunteers to assist.**

Sat., Apr. 18, Mon., Apr. 20, Wed., Apr. 22 - Plant Donation pick-ups

Wed., Apr. 22 – 12 - 1:30 - potluck lunch

Sat. Apr. 25 - First BIG plant Sale **Roster sign-up 2 weeks before.**

Thurs., May 7 - 9:30 to 10:30 Pre-school visit, activities **Volunteers needed to assist.**

Sat., May 9 - Second BIG plant Sale

Wed., May 13 – 9am to 12pm? - VIU kinesiology class integration into regular workparty

Wed., May 20 – 11am to 12 noon - Re-Opening of New Volunteer Intake with an orientation session; welcome to stay for our regular monthly potluck

Thurs., May 21 - 10:30 to 11am - Wellington Sec. Life Sci class for tour

Sat., May 23 - Third BIG plant Sale

Mon., May 25, Wed., May 27, Sat., May 30 - Plant Donation pick-ups

Sat. Jun. 13 - 1:30 to 3:30 Workshop: "Pest and Disease Prevention in Your Yard & Garden" presented by Connie Kuramoto. If a volunteer would like to host this workshop, please contact Pat or Lisa. For others interested in taking this class, register through Nanaimo Activity Guide.