**BLG Newsletter for Week of Aug. 31, 2026**

**Thank You -** to all who brought plastic bags...for now, we have plenty for both volunteers who forget their own and for the Good Food Box!

**Grab Bars** – A fine pair of grab bars have been expertly installed, one either side of the clubhouse door.

**Painting Jobs** – Several paints jobs got done this past week, taking advantage of the continuing dry weather: – south wall of clubhouse, our 3 picnic tables, and the wooden backings for the grab bars. Nice work, all!

**Harvest News** – Helga wants us to know that certain fruits, notably **pears,** may appear on the harvest table because they came off the tree easily enough, but will not likely be ready to eat at their best for some weeks to come. Meanwhile, park them on your windowsill to finish ripening.

And speaking of ripe fruit, one way to tell if an **apple** is ripe and ready is to cut it open and check the seeds. Ideally they will be fairly dark brown if they're ripe. Of course, once cut open, fruit will not ripen further.

The second crop of **raspberries** is ripening nicely and canes need to be picked over every day or two to avoid allowing berries to become over-ripe and mushy.

Lisa says the **peanuts**, growing in GH#18, are starting to peg! This means the flower, or what is left of it, sends a "peg" down into the soil from which peanuts (aka groundnuts) will grow.

**Fall into Gardening** – "Gardening on Vancouver Island is Different". Thanks to Dorothee for alerting us to this workshop coming up, also on Sunday, Sept. 27. A poster with further information is attached to the Monday Link for Aug. 31.

**Great Workshops Coming Up** -

Here, from the Parks & Rec activity guide, are the courses NCGS is running this fall. Register online at: https://recreation.nanaimo.ca/

Two of these will be offered at BLG in mid-October. We will soon be asking for volunteers...one to facilitate/host each. Stay tuned.....

## Fall Propagation NEW!

Learn how to take hardwood cuttings from your own plants or from friends and family with varieties you admire. This workshop introduces the simple, rewarding art of hardwood propagation, a budget-friendly way to grow a hedge, expand your garden or create thoughtful gifts for fellow gardeners.

**Instructor: Connie Kuramoto**

Sun, Oct 18 | 1-3 pm | $20/1 | 176060

**Beban Learning Gardens**

## Winter Sowing NEW!

Discover how to start next year's garden while staying warm indoors. This workshop teaches a low effort method for sowing seeds in fall and winter giving them a strong start for spring—even with unpredictable weather. A simple, reliable way to grow more with less fuss.

**Instructor: Connie Kuramoto**

Sun, Oct 25 | 1-3 pm | $20/1 | 176061

**Beban Learning Gardens**

## Basic Fruit Tree Pruning

Our expert pruner will show you how to care for young and old fruit trees and grape vines in your yard. This is the workshop to attend to get hands-on learning in basic pruning techniques. Bring a camera or notebook and questions for this hands-on workshop. Dress for the weather.

**Instructor: Scott Wiskerke**

Sun, Oct 18 | 10 am-12 pm | $20/1 | 176057

Sun, Nov 1 | 10 am-12 pm | $20/1 | 175805

**Beaufort Food Forest (St. George St or Beaufort Dr)**

## Refresher Pruning

If you have some pruning experience or have done some reading about pruning, this workshop can show you how to apply those principles to your trees. There will be some information on pest control, dormant oil spraying and other more complex tree care. Even if you haven't pruned before, this workshop will help you feel confident to start. Dress for the weather.

Sat, Oct 24 | 10 am-12 pm | $20/1 | 176056

Sat, Nov 7 | 10 am-12 pm | $20/1 | 175804

**Pine Street Community Garden**

## Composting Outside and Inside NEW!

Learn how to turn everyday kitchen scraps into rich, healthy compost whether you have an outdoor bin or live in an apartment. This workshop covers bokashi and indoor methods and features a hands-on build of a vermiculture (worm) bin. One completed bin will be given away to a lucky participant at the end of the session.

**Instructor: Connie Kuramoto**

Sun, Sep 27 | 1-3 pm | $20/1 | 176062

**Pine Street Community Garden**

## Planning Next Year's Garden on a Budget

On a tight budget but dreaming of a thriving garden? Learn how to build healthy soil, source affordable plants and seeds and choose the tools that truly matter. Smart planning helps you save money while growing fresh food for your family.

**Instructor: Connie Kuramoto**

Sun, Oct 4 | 1-3 pm | $20/1 | 176058

**Pine Street Community Garden**

**Dates to Remember** –

Monday, Sept. 7 – Labour Day – Monday workparty will be cancelled

Wed., Sept. 9 – Pepper-Tasting Day

Wednesday, September 16 – next potluck lunch

Sunday, Sept. 27 – Salt Spring Apple Fest – **Sign-up for this possible BLG "field-trip" is on clubhouse table or email Pat and Lisa, if interested. There is room on sign-up to indicate whether you would prefer to be a driver or a passenger, and if "Driver", it would be helpful to indicate how many passengers you could take. Fare and gas for car would be shared among passengers.** Here is a link telling about this event: http://saltspringapplefestival.org/

Sunday, Sept. 27 - "Fall into Gardening" workshop