

Garden Happenings

November, 2021



Community Gardens – A Comparison

A quick Google search and a visit to the American Community Garden Association website indicated that there are three Las Vegas community gardens with an active public presence – San Miguel Community Garden (SMCG), Vegas Roots Community Garden (VRCG), and Provident Community Garden (PCG). All three are 501 c3 charitable organizations, but they differ widely in their structure and operation. All beds at SMCG are community beds, no individual beds are available. All beds at PCG are individual beds and unrented beds are active and managed by PCG. VRCG is a combination of individual beds and an urban farm which relies on volunteers.

PCG is supported by rental fees for individual beds (\$100/yr). VRCG is supported by rental fees for individual beds (\$125/qtr) and donations. SMCG is totally supported by donations, both individual and corporate. Irrigation of garden beds at SMCG and VRCG is under the control of the manager as is the type of irrigation system. At PCG, timers in garden beds are controlled by the renter and type of irrigation system is not regulated. In addition to the garden, SMCG includes an orchard and a chicken coop. VRCG includes a chicken coop and PCG includes an orchard.

The Google search indicated that VRCG has a rating of 4.7 with 169 reviews, SMCG has a rating of 4.7 with 67 reviews, and PCG has no rating and no reviews.

Food Pantry Donations

Provident Community Gardens has completed another successful year of providing donations to the Food Pantries at Trinity United Methodist Church, Lutheran Social Services of Nevada, and Mountain View Church. Food pantry donations this year consisted of green beans, tomatoes, eggplants, peaches, zucchini, and sweet potatoes. A total of 458 quarts were delivered to the food pantries. Of this total, 130.5 quarts were generated from the PCG managed beds and 327.5 quarts were donated from individual member beds. All three of the food pantries are very appreciative of the fresh produce that Elaine, Li, Jerry, and the PCG managed beds have provided to them this year. Their clientele gravitate to the locally grown produce because of its freshness and its quality. Thank you to Melinda Gutierrez and Judy Tobler for their assistance with this program.

Mushroom Substrate

Thanks to Lawrence Proctor of Atomic Mushrooms, we now have mushroom substrate available for use in our gardens. It consists of oak sawdust and soybean hulls and it is great for adding organic matter to your garden and improving the “tilth” of your garden bed.

Workday at the Garden

