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# MEMBER NEWS



CULTIVATING RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH COMMUNITY

## OEC's First Harvests!

Our volunteers covered a lot of territory this month. We transplanted beneficial annuals into larger pots, prepared a bed for our tomatoes, planted peas, pruned, turned the compost pile, forked the soil, monitored for slugs, shared in a spontaneous potluck and, of course, weeded. This next month, we will focus on more soil building techniques, integrating cover crops into your garden and hopefully begin harvesting the fruits of our labor to donate.



On May 12, we hosted the Portland Garden Club for a community service morning. Seven garden club members came ready to learn about the work we do and volunteer hands on in the garden. We pooled together and tackled an intense Canadian Thistle patch. Thank you Portland Garden Club for volunteering your time and energy and for supporting the work of the Organic Education Center.

**Save the Date** – July 17<sup>th</sup> – [The Tilth Table](#) - Chef Series at Luscher Farm presented by Oregon Tilth and [Allium Bistro](#). Learn to plant and harvest a variety of crops, then pair up with an experienced chef to gather provisions to prepare your unique dish together. Chefs Pascal Chureau of Allium Bistro, Greg Denton and Gabrielle Quinonez Denton of Metrovino, and Serge Selbe of The Benson share their favorite seasonal recipes and inspire you to savor the season. Read more about [The Tilth Table](#).

It's official - summer is almost here. Consider joining us at the following classes (Pre-registration required). Go to our website at [www.tilth.org](http://www.tilth.org) to sign up.

- May 26, 'Straw Bale Gardening' at Luscher Farm in Lake Oswego, OR
- June 9, 'Wise Watering: Irrigation Made Easy' at Luscher Farm
- July 14, 'Year Round Vegetable Gardening' at Luscher Farm

### Garden News

Though it has been colder and rainier than normal, we are proud to say that our new raspberry canes, asparagus crowns and potato seeds are happily settling into their new homes. This month, we harvested the first of our lettuce heads, fresh arugula (which was incorporated in our second Neighborhood Dinner with Allium Bistro), spinach, Swiss chard and the first spring radishes. We also began the first plantings

## Invite a Friend

Do you know someone who is interested in food systems that are healthy for people as well as the environment? Invite them to [become a supporting member](#) of Oregon Tilth! Members of Oregon Tilth receive the bi-monthly In Good Tilth Magazine, discounts to events and classes and more!

## Become a Fan!



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[Audio Recordings of Organicology](#) still available online!



of our herbaceous beneficial flower border/hedgerow with our native Camassia, Baptisia and edible Monarda. Stay tuned for more functional additions soon. And, though it's still cooler out, it's time to think about setting up irrigation for the summer months and building our trellis's to support our peas, beans and tomatoes'.

Don't forget to check out these other tilth-worthy [events](#)...

**Organic Valley  
Recognizes the Next  
Generation of Organic  
Farmers**



In celebration of its growing network of fresh-faced farmers, Organic Valley, the nation's largest cooperative of organic farmers, has honored three of its youngest with Generation Organic (Gen-O) awards.

Read more about Organic Valley's [Generation Organic Awards](#).

**OFRF Organic Farming  
Grants Total \$2.7 Million  
over 20 Years**



The Organic Farming Research Foundation is proud to have awarded 314 grants over 21 years. Seven new grants totaling \$75,000 were recently awarded across North America.

Read more on the [OFRF Grants](#).

**Organic Papayas and  
Young Coconut on the  
Way to North America**



Beginning in May start looking for Sunset Papayas, Maridol Papayas, Young (sweet) Coconuts, and Mature Coconuts. All the fruit is certified organic and will be available on a year round basis.

Read more on [organic papayas and coconuts](#).

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