

[View this email in your browser](#)



January 2020 Newsletter

Letter from the President



Happy New Year!

I'm optimistic that the LEAF community is making a grassroots difference - we're working to build our local food shed, using regenerative ag practices (beyond organic) and educating kids and adults. Last year LEAF held 36 free workshops and fee-based classes and 18 events! We're your home-grown environmental community,

where field trips, free library workshops and classes are happening.

If you've been on the fence about joining LEAF, now is the time to do so! Anyone who is a LEAF member as of January 15th will get a special hand-delivered packet, including a hot-off-the-press 2019 Annual Report, advance info about upcoming LEAF classes and free seeds.

[Join here!](#)

Looking into the new year, LEAF's Board has big plans to add additional directors. Since we're a working Board, we're looking for people who want to become engaged in LEAF and make a difference. We need people who can help our fundraising, marketing, membership and volunteer programs. If you're interested, please [contact me](#). Let's talk!

- Mia Mora

Upcoming LEAF Events



NEW IN 2020!

Announcing a new series of classes: Cooking with Hali

Join us and learn how to incorporate more veggies in your meals. Hali Clizer, who grew up eating meals prepared from the family garden plot, is now a co-owner at Niles Pie. There will be four classes, offered Jan - April. You can register for all on our [Meetup](#) page.

Classes are \$57 each, 10 attendees max, held at the Odd Fellows Lodge at Irvington Five Corners. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

WINTER POT PIE COOKING CLASS

Saturday, January 9 // 5 - 7 PM // \$57

Have you ever considered making your favorite soup into a heartier pot pie? It's a great way to use leftovers and super simple. We'll use lots of seasonal veggies with a couple of different protein options for meat-eaters and vegetarians in an easy, flaky crust.

Odd Fellows Lodge at 40955 Fremont Blvd

GARDEN SCIENCE: EARTHWORMS

Thursday, January 9 // 3:45 - 4:45 PM // No fee

Why are these earth dwelling creatures so important to sustainable gardening, and exactly what they do? Each child will have a chance to look at a live worm through a magnifying glass. All materials provided. Class geared towards younger kids.

Fremont Centerville Library at 3801 Nicolet Ave

PLANTING & WATERING TREES

Saturday, January 11 // 10:30 AM - Noon // No fee

Learn the correct way to plant and water a tree. This workshop is in collaboration with Tri-City Urban Forest Alliance (TUFA) who will inform tell you all about their mission to protect and increase our urban canopy and the City of Fremont who speak about the 50-50 Street Tree Program that helps property owners pay for street tree pruning, removal and replacement. Open to all.

Fremont Main Library, Fukaya A

What to do in the Garden: January



Urban Farm Bee Sanctuary ready for winter - sheet mulched for weed suppression.

It's January so your soil has been soaking up rain for the past 6 weeks, setting up the perfect conditions for a Weed Invasion. You probably already have little green plants popping up throughout your yard. This is the perfect time to do some easy weed suppression by sheet mulching, and at the same time you're building healthy soil. All you need to do is lay down cardboard over the weedy areas, overlapping the cardboard by at least 6 inches so light cannot get through. Then, cover with 3 to 4 inches of mulch like bark chips.

If you want to plant cover crops in this area, after sheet mulching, let the area continue to soak up the rains until the cardboard is wet, then punch a hole or cut an X through the cardboard to sow each seed. If you want to grow plants in this area in the future, add 2" of compost on top of the cardboard before you add the bark chips.

Happy Mulching!

LEAF C. R. Stone Garden



Stone Gardeners are a community of volunteers dedicated to our mission of sharing what we grow and sharing what we know about regenerative farming and sustainable living. We meet on Thursday mornings year round and focus on whatever needs to be done at our urban farm. We love being outdoors, feeling the earth beneath our feet, getting our hands dirty, and seeing plants grow. It's grounding and regenerating. Come join us. Contact ElaineFremontLEAF@gmail.com for more information.

- Elaine, Stone Garden Supervisor

LEAF Center



The Board is seeking a landscape architect who can provide pro bono assistance with a site plan for the new LEAF Center location at the California Nursery Historical Park. Please contact [Mia Mora](#) if you know of anyone who might be interested.

There are still planters available for rent in both sizes. If interested, contact [LEAF Center Garden Supervisor](#).

Urban Farm



The Board is looking into security fencing, to protect our crops and assets from vandalism. This will be a major infrastructure investment and we'll be working to obtain funding to finance it.

LEAF News
LEAF thanks The Corning Incorporated Foundation



CORNING FOUNDATION

The Corning Incorporated Foundation awarded LEAF \$4300 towards the Urban Farm, growing veggies for Alameda County's Food as Medicine Program. The Foundation focuses on education, human services, culture, and volunteerism in Corning business locations. Corning Incorporated has business locations in Northern California in Union City, Sunnyvale and Milpitas. The food security aspect of LEAF's project supports the Foundations' human services focus.

LEAF News

Grant awarded for LEAF nursery facilities



The Mary A. Crocker Trust, operating out of San Francisco, awarded LEAF \$4,000 towards repairing and upgrading the greenhouse and lath house at the C.R. Stone Garden. We're thrilled to make these improvements just in time to start seedling propagation in late winter. The grant also funds irrigation costs for the farm's first year. Thank you to the Crocker Trust Directors who visited LEAF's gardens and selected our project!

LEAF News

Grant awarded by The Strong Foundation



LEAF thanks the Foundation for their \$4,500 funding for our 'Food Forest Classroom' in support of our educational programs at the Stone Garden. The Strong Foundation supports environmental education in northern California and we're thrilled they're supporting us!

Hiring a Paid Plant Propagator

We grow plants from mostly from seed and sometimes by vegetative reproduction. We are looking for someone who is thoroughly enjoys starting plants from seeds and cuttings, who is resourceful and determined to deal with the trials and tribulations of growing plants with seasonal temperature fluctuations, pests, and whatever else comes up. Please contact ElaineFremontLEAF@gmail.com for more information.

Want to get involved? Become a Member of LEAF today!



Copyright © 2020 LEAF, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

