

Happy Friday, Farm Friends!



Pitter-patter go the raindrops this morning, but a little rain will help our plants! But the weekend forecast is looking pretty good -- especially with no rain in the forecast for Saturday morning's Cobblestone Farmers Market!

Something Cool is Coming!

We have *another* building project underway here at the farm -- we told you back in January that this was going to be the Year of Construction!

An item that had been on our To-Do list for a v-e-r-y long time was to expand

our walk-in cooler space. We ran out of capacity in our little 8x8 walk-in cooler a long, long time ago.

Back in December, we learned about a farm in Prospect Hill that was closing and selling some equipment. One of the things they were selling was a 10x18 cooler that had only been used for 2 seasons and it was a reasonable price. Sold! So off we went to disassemble the cooler and load it up for the trek back to the farm!











However, before we start putting the cooler together, we have to make sure that we have a perfectly level, well-draining pad to put it on -- that was this week's task. But first, we had to clear the area where the cooler will be installed. It was a bit overgrown and littered with stuff we needed to get out of there. Nothing like a project to kick-start Spring clearing, huh?



After that was done, Ray worked his magic with Jules to get the soil leveled out and then we added geotex-fabric and gravel to make sure the area would drain.









Tamping and leveling, tamping and levelling... a little bit at a time creates a good foundation.





So the plan is to finish up the pad this weekend and to assemble the cooler on Monday! Keep your fingers crossed for us!

One Week Away! Summer Plant Sale April 21-23!

We've been busy, busy, busy getting things ready for next week's Plant Sale. Plants are getting potted up into their final format and the fast-growing squashes and cucumbers have been seeded have already sprouted. It's almost Show Time! For more information on the sale and what we'll be offering, check out our website for details as well as a list of the plants we'll have available.





Wanna Grow Better Tomatoes? We're Here to Help!



We are offering our NEW workshop on **Growing Great Tomatoes at Home** on **Sunday, April 23 from 1-3:30**. This workshop will include both classroom instruction on growing tomatoes and a tour to a couple of our on-farm tomato plantings. The tour will give participants a hands-on opportunity to learn how to trellis and prune tomatoes.

The cost of the workshop is \$35 per person and includes your choice of TWO tomato plants from our Summer Plant Sale. More information and registration for the workshop can be found at our website.

Cobblestone Market Update!

We'll be at <u>Cobblestone Farmers Market</u> this **Saturday, April 15 from 8:30-noon!** This is our first week back this season and we are scheduled to be there every-other week through November!

This week we'll have the first of our delicious and Organic **Spring Garlic**, what a wonderful balm for the soul and Springtime tonic! These beautiful bunches are SO versatile and tasty -- plus we've got some great tips on how to use 'em!



We will also have our beautiful **Strawberry Hanging Baskets** that are filled with fruit and flowers and are ready to hang on your porch. These are Everbearing strawberries that will produce throughout the Summer and into early Fall. Imagine having just-picked strawberries on your cereal all summer long! We will also have pots of both the **Everbearing Strawberries** and **June-Bearing Strawberries** (**Sweet Charlie**) to plant in your garden.



And don't forget our famous **Garlic Powder** and **Garlic Granules** as well as **Ginger Powder**. We'll be bringing a good supply of all of these meal enhancers!

Please stop by and say "Hello!" The Market is located at <u>1007 South Marshall</u> <u>Street</u> (at the intersection of Salem Avenue). These is ample parking at The

Enrichment Center just across Marshall Street. We look forward to seeing you tomorrow!

And Before We Go....Don't Miss Your Chance to Be Part of the *PlumFresh* Family!



Just a FEW more spaces remain! We are now at about **90 percent filled** -- if you've been thinking about it, don't miss out! **Registration will be closing at the end of April.**

Just a quick reminder: You have SIX pick-up options to choose from (On-Farm (Wednesday and Saturday), Buffalo Creek, Cobblestone Farmers Market, **PILOT MOUNTAIN,** and Clemmons. Plus, we deliver to homes and offices in a pretty broad area around northern Winston and King.

There's lots more information about the program <u>on our website</u>. Ready to sign up? <u>Here's the link</u> to register now. Registration is easy and you can set yourself up for automatic payments, so you don't have to remember those things!

We would LOVE to be your farmer this year!

That's all the news for the week. The coming week will feature an important day here on the Plum Granny Farm calendar -- <u>National Garlic Day.</u> While we're not sure why April 19th has been given this honor, perhaps it is because mid-April is when Spring Garlic becomes available from friendly garlic farmers (like us!). Enjoy!



Until next week, Cheryl & Ray







