GROW APPALACHIA

BEREA COLLEGE

Now More Than Ever

Despite the challenges and downright difficulties we have faced, we are doing great! Our gardeners are all set, at the moment. We will be starting garden visits soon. I enjoy these visits because the gardeners are so excited to tell us about the good (and the not so good) stories of their journey. We have a few this year that are new to growing a garden. I am especially wanting to hear their tales of triumph and woe.



In July we had time to finally plant the community garden. I know it seems late but we were even later planting it last year. Last year's garden did very well so we are not concerned about the date. We purchased a **Jab Planter** late last year that is making some of our work easier. We really appreciate it for many reasons: It side dresses the fertilizer as you plant, cuts down on the bending over, top loads seed & fertilizer, sets depth and number of seeds planted, and saves time. The soil has to be fairly loose. The draw back for us so far is that our ground is rocky, so on occasion a stone will get lodged and need to be removed. We have used it to plant beans, corn, and sunflower seeds so far, all of which have sprouted and are doing well. Our next plantings will not be as easy. Getting our tomato and pepper plants in the ground will use up most of the bending over we saved with the Jab planter. 🙁

(Check out our YouTube channel for a video. https://youtu.be/W3Q7q4zNELc)

In conclusion I want to share this snip-it from CentralTexasGardener.org; **"Every gardener I've met has these qualities: curiosity, tenacity, creativity, and passion. Plants connect us to hope, anticipation, learning and nurturing."**

We need people with these qualities now more than ever.