

CHINQUAPIN GARDENS NEWS

Official newsletter of the Chinquapin Gardens Advisory Board • Chinquapin Park, Alexandria, Va. • Spring'07

WELCOME TO ANOTHER GARDENING SEASON AT CHINQUAPIN PARK

Welcome back and greetings to our new gardeners! As your chair and vice-chair of the Chinquapin Gardens Advisory Board, it gives us great pleasure to set the stage for a new gardening season. We hope you are all looking forward to a great gardening year. We will have many new gardeners joining us. The gardening season is now well under way. Don't forget that you need to start work on your garden plot no later than **May 1**.

With the return of the gardening season also comes the return of gardening monitoring teams. To make sure that gardeners are keeping their plots clean and adhering to the Regulations, volunteer monitoring teams, made up of gardeners and Advisory Board members, check up on the gardens throughout the year. Gardeners who are found to be in violation of the Regulations — by not weeding their paths or by using pesticides, for example — are sent notices asking them to comply. Gardeners who repeatedly don't follow the Regulations have their plots reassigned without a refund. While the monitoring teams are a lot of work, they help us turn over plots that aren't being used and keep rats and other pests from making a home at Chinquapin.

Working in cooperation with staff from Alexandria's Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities, we have improved the way we conduct the monitoring sessions. While we previously had numerous monitoring sessions throughout the year, we will have only three sessions this season. We will still be using volunteer gardeners as monitoring team members, but because we will not have as many



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at Chinquapin a great experience, due to concerns expressed by neighbors and gardeners alike, it is only fair to ask that the garden plots be maintained.

We have scheduled the ninth (can you believe that?) annual garden picnic for **Saturday, Aug. 11**, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Last year's picnic was even better attend-

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NEW CHINQUAPIN GARDENS WEB SITE DEBUTS ONLINE

Gardeners will soon be able to find the latest news about gardening at Chinquapin Park via a new Web site created by gardener Roy Wright.

At his own expense, Roy has set up a Web site for Chinquapin Gardens at www.chinquapingardens.org.

While the site is still in its early development stages, plans call for online garden plot registration, monitoring information, newsletters and more. Check it out and let us know what you think.

If you can help or have any further ideas on what should be included on the site, please contact Roy at roywright@comcast.net. ■



www.chinquapingardens.org

