



Grow Food  
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# June 2021 Newsletter

PJ Tees Available Now! • Survey Results • Update on The Good Table

Friday, June 11th, 2021

## Tee Shirts Available for Sale

Order yours today!

## Education Team Update

Check out what our interns are up to!

## Survey Results

Thanks so much for your feedback!


## Good Table Update

Find out what's up next!

## Gardening Tips

It's the growing season!

## Plants of the Month



# THEY'RE HERE!

The PJ Tee has arrived just in time for summer.

[Click to order!](#)

*Scroll down to get your own PJ Tee!*

Learn about lemongrass and white sage

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## Idaho Garden Photos

Goodbye to a special community garden!

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*Read about the last day for our staff at one of our community gardens, Idaho Apartments in El Cerrito.*

## Good News

Thanks for your kind words!

# It's Summertime

## ..and our tees are here!

Our tees are here!

Decked out with our new logo, designed by board and community member [Veronica Ramirez](#), we can't wait to see you all out and about repping PJ with these!

Here's the deal, we're trying something new: offering our tees on a special sliding donation scale: **\$25-\$35, you pick**. If times are hard, we hope the lower price feels accessible. And we hope those with a little more will give a little more to help along the way. Sound good?

That's pretty much it. When you're ready to get yours just follow the link below, pick your donation amount, fill out the form and we'll send your tee right to you.

Click [here](#) or the graphic below to order your Planting Justice tee today!



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## Education Team Update

The Education Team has had an exciting spring! We finished up our spring nursery internship for high school students in April. We enjoyed sunny days while planting a mother garden of rare perennial vegetable varieties, learning about all things food justice: from water conservation to the Black Panther Party Free Breakfast Program, and of course trying out heaps of healthy homemade recipes such as chia seed pudding pie and passion fruit sorbet. Now we're hard at work preparing for the summer internship beginning in June!



We've also continued to support our community justice gardens by planting summer crops and building new green spaces for the people! We just finished our three-part speaking series on food justice education with OUSD educators. It was inspirational! A big thank you to all teachers for holding strong through this difficult year. Happy almost summer everyone!

*- Feyi Ajayi-Dopemu & Maya Salsedo, Education Team*

*\*Our summer internship program is currently closed to new applicants*

## Survey Results

We asked and you answered!

Thanks to each of you that took the time to do our first ever readers' survey. Your responses gave us opportunities to learn more about you, to find out what you like and what you don't, what's working and what's not.

We plan on implementing your feedback to make our newsletter better, to offer more exciting online events and to make sure we're in a conversation, not just communication. We know you all are some of our biggest supporters: sharing our work, waiting on what's next and telling your friends and families about us.

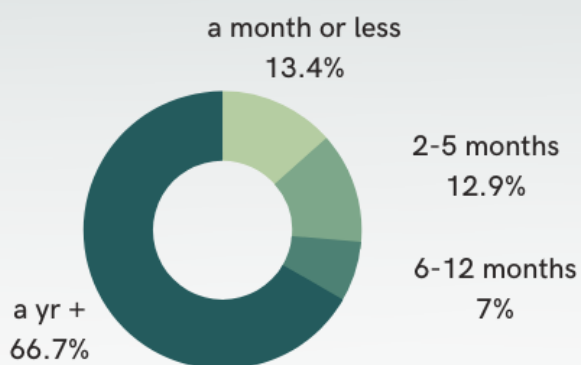
Thanks for sharing with us how we can show up better for you.

Scroll down to learn more about what you shared with us.



# WHAT WE LEARNED:

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## You've been with us a while!

Over 66% of you have been with us for a year or more.

We're in it for the long haul and it seems you are too.

Thanks for hanging in there with us!

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"You folks are very, very wonderful and the work you are doing is highly important. Thank you!!"



## You like us.

50% of you chose to drop us an extra message and your responses warmed our hearts! And over half of you said you experienced joy while reading our newsletter. It feels good to know our community supports us and our work so deeply.

Thank you!

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64% of you keep up with us via our website. For the latest updates follow us on social media too!

twitter/FB:  
@plantingjustice

ig:@planting.justice



80% of you said we email juuust the right amount.

We got it and we'll hold our email volume steady. Our newsletter will expand as we work to incorporate the content you want most from us. But we promise, no extra emails!



68% of you entered our raffle to win a free tee, our small way of saying thank you: for your support, for your time, for helping us grow.

Look out for more opportunities for goodies from us!



Last but not least!

You'd like more plant-related content from us. We hear you. There's a wealth of knowledge within our PJ community and we're working hard to figure out ways to share what we know with all of you in the digital space!

Thanks to everyone that responded to our survey, we really do value your feedback and opinions. Stay tuned!

[plantingjustice.org](http://plantingjustice.org)

Thanks again to everyone who filled out the survey!

Read on for more of what we've been up to, and to find out what we've got in store for this summer.

## An Update on The Good Table!

Plenty of you wanted to know more about our projects that are under construction and we're eager to share to share with you!

Stay tuned for future updates on our aquaponics farm, our ongoing work at our main nursery (319 105th Avenue in East Oakland) and more.

For now, check out this quick update from cofounder Gavin Raders about our partnership project in El Sobrante, The Good Table.

"Major renovation is underway! We have begun building out the pay what you can cafe, nursery, commercial kitchens, and community center.



We can't wait to be able to offer produce from our farm and other local farms in the cafe and to be able to make herbal medicinal and other edible products in our state of the art kitchen! We'll be harvesting crops from our Mother Orchard farm down the road and our aquaponics farm to make these products and we're excited to offer them to the community. We'll also planning to offer pay what you can yoga, meditation, self defense, permaculture and urban gardening workshops.

We'll be able to move these products all around the Bay via our brand new refrigerated food truck (*see above*) and to offer pay what you can yoga, meditation, self defense, and urban gardening workshops rooted in indigenous farming traditions.

See you soon!"

- Gavin Raders, Co-Founder

A green flyer with white text and logos. At the top left is the "Planting Justice" logo, a circular emblem with a bird and the text "PLANTING JUSTICE". At the top right is the "the Good Table" logo, a circular emblem with a table and the text "the Good Table". Below the logos, the text reads "Volunteer at" followed by "The Good Table!" in large, bold, white letters. To the right of this text is a photograph of a hammer, a yellow hard hat, and a yellow level on a wooden surface. At the bottom, the text reads "Final Saturday of each month" and "12pm - 3pm, 5166 Sobrante Ave".

We're very excited to welcome you all to The Good Table next year!

In the meantime, (and to get a sneak peek before we open!), we invite you to volunteer with us at the site. 5166 Sobrante Ave, El Sobrante on the last Saturday of each month from 12pm to 3pm.

We'd love to see you there!

# Gardening Resources

Hoping to devote more time to your garden this summer, but don't know where to start? Here's a channel we love: [Epic Gardening](#) on Youtube. Kevin Espiritu has enough instructional videos to last through the summer and beyond!

Have kiddos that want to get involved? [The Nature Conservancy](#) has an online curriculum organized into sections for ages 5-11, 11-14, and 14-18. Lessons scale in subject by age and videos are

## Plants Of The Month



### Lemongrass

Our Lemongrass plants are vigorous, easy to grow, and pest and disease resistant. Enjoy using this flavorful foliage in your curries and as a tea. Harvest stalks off the main plant continually through the year. This lemon grass is the variety that produces a stalk with a white narrow swollen base. Cold Hardy to USDA Zone 9, can be grown in a container and brought in during winter.

Try it out with these easy and delicious [lemongrass chicken rice bowls](#) from [Molly Yeh](#), or this quick [lemongrass ginger tea](#) from [Flavours Treat!](#)

Click [here](#) to buy.

### White Sage

Striking evergreen shrub has woolly silver green foliage and light lavender pink flowers. Aromatic resinous leaves are dried



and used traditionally for making smudge sticks, which are burned to cleanse the mind and bring in positive energy. Southern California Native needs a sunny spot with well-drained soil and is very drought hardy. Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies, and makes a great nectar plant for bees and other beneficial insects.



Grows 3-5ft tall and wide.

Zones 7-9.

Click [here](#) to purchase white sage from our nursery.

## Idaho Apts. Garden

We recently had our last day at one of our community garden installs: Idaho Apartments, a housing community for formerly unhoused community members in El Cerrito.

The folks we met at this site were kind and enthusiastic, and we'll miss seeing them!

Enjoy these photos from our last planting day:





A big thanks to our Grassroots Fundraising, Education, and Transform Your Yard teams for all their hard work on this project.

We hope our friends at the Idaho Apartments have a great summer and enjoy the garden!

## GOOD NEWS - Kind Words from You

This month our good news comes from **you!** Or from us to you? Or from you to us to you?

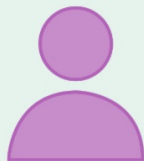
We might be confused here but your words to us were clear. Your feedback really made us feel good. You said so many lovely things about us in our survey comments we wanted to share them back with you and say thanks again!

Don't forget we still want to hear good news from you, too. **Send us an email at [press@plantingjustice.org](mailto:press@plantingjustice.org) about something exciting in your life (include a photo if you can) and with your permission, we'll share it in next months' newsletter!**

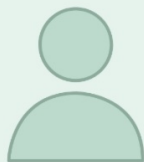
# THANK YOU!



"I can't wait to volunteer with y'all again!"



"Keep up the good work. I love telling friends and family about Planting Justice. You have a promoter in me!"



"Your work is important and inspiring. Keep it up."

