

**PUBLIC EVENT PERMIT APPLICATION**  
**City of Somerville, Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**Application #: PEL17-000054**  
**File #: 15-004046**

**Organization name:** Friends of the Somerville  
Community Growing Center

**Description:** A series of free community events

**Date(s):** Various events, 5/1/17 - 10/31/17

**Setup starts at (time):** varies

**Cleanup after the event ends at (time):** varies

**Attendees:**

Max attendance at one time: less than 50

Maximum attendees accommodated: usually less than 50

**Attendee fees or suggested donations:** Free, donations  
accepted

**Social or cultural benefits:**

Environmental education, arts, children's groups,  
community, health and wellness

**Event name:** Growing Center 2017 Season Calendar

**Location:** 22 Vinal Ave All events to be held at the  
Growing center at 22 Vinal Ave. 2017 Calendar attached.

**Rain date(s):** Various dates

**Event starts at (time):** varies

**Event ends at (time):** varies

Total people attending: 75

Total Somerville residents attending: 50

**What is your budget for this event:** Volunteer run  
events

**Financial benefits:**

Increased foot traffic, community engagement and  
potential customers at nearby businesses

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Event Information	Yes/No	If yes, Describe
Food served?	No	
Alcohol served?	No	
Grill/open-flame device used?	No	
Streets blocked?	No	
Sidewalks blocked?	No	
<b>Arrangements:</b>		
Auxiliary Police?	No	
Police Detail:	No	
Parking (for Attendees)?	No	
Restrooms?	Yes	port a pottys on site
Liability Insurance?	Yes	FCGC has obtained liability insurance
Will any public parks be used?	No	
Has the event occurred in the last two years?	Yes	The Growing Center has been holding community events for 20 years
Alcohol License?	No	

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**Approval Conditions:**

**Reviewer:** John J. Long, City Clerk, Approved

**Reviewer:** Christine Morin, Public Works, Approved

**Reviewer:** Scott Whalen, Police, Approved

**Reviewer:** Jill Lathan, Recreation, Approved with Conditions

**Reviewer:** John J. Long, City Clerk, Approved

**Reviewer:** CS Mayor, Mayor's Office, Approved

**Reviewer:** John J. Long, City Clerk, Complete





# Somerville Community Growing Center

## **Somerville Community Growing Center - 2017 Calendar**

22 Vinal Avenue, Somerville (near Union Square)

[www.thegrowingcenter.org](http://www.thegrowingcenter.org) | Facebook: @somervillecommunitygrowingcenter

Sponsored by the Friends of the Community Growing Center and the City of Somerville, Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

To check for updates and cancellations: visit our website and click on 'calendar'. All events are free unless a "suggested donation" is noted. The performance site is accessible by wheelchair. The City of Somerville has permit parking on all streets, including Vinal Avenue, so we encourage you to walk or bike! (Parking is relaxed in the area, during the times of scheduled events only, but is limited.)

The Somerville Community Growing Center is a place for people of all ages and backgrounds to gather, learn and celebrate – to grow a healthy community. On our quarter acre site you will find gardens and space for arts, performances, education and community gatherings. This peaceful urban oasis was built by the community and is maintained and run by a volunteer organization called the Friends of the Community Growing Center.

Volunteers and donations are always welcomed to help support events and programs offered at this city-owned site. Please visit our website for info on how to donate or volunteer.

## **Seasonal Celebrations**

### **Spring Garden Day!**

Sunday, May 7th, 11am-2pm

Be part of the 23rd annual spring event to celebrate spring, gardening and community. Free seeds and/or seedling exchange—bring along any extras you have to share with other gardeners and go home with some new varieties. Enjoy the traditional spring season dances of the Red Herring and Pipe Dreams Morris Dance teams. Join the annual Maypole Dance, part of the ritual of looking forward to a fertile, productive season in the gardens of Somerville.

Contact: Lisa at [lisa@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:lisa@thegrowingcenter.org).

### **Harvest Festival**

Sunday, October 8th, 2:30pm-4:30pm

Harvest Fair 2017: Festival de la Cosecha~ Festival da Colheita~ Festival de Moisson

The Growing Center's season finale includes harvest games, cider demonstration, pumpkin decorating, contests, and family friendly music. Come celebrate the growing Center's 23rd season! Celebrate the harvests of the season with pumpkin decorating, games, cider demonstration, music and more. Free fun for the whole family. Donations accepted. Watch our website for details. Contact: Lisa at [lisa@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:lisa@thegrowingcenter.org).

### **Music, Arts and Culture**

#### **PorchFest: The Van Burens**

**Saturday, May 13th, 12-3pm**

The Somerville Arts Council supports this annual event with music happening all around the city. Check their website for full listing.

#### **MusiFiesta!**

**Saturday, June 3rd, 10am - 1pm**

MusiFiesta! is a family fun event which celebrates Spanish language culture in Somerville.

Maura Mendoza will sing children's songs in Spanish; a storyteller will read books in Spanish; craft activities will feature beans for making maracas and mosaics; a science activity will dissect lima beans; and possibly El Sistema, a children's after school music program based at ESCS, will make an appearance.

#### **Monthly on third Thursday evenings, check website for updates, 5:30-7:30pm**

**Growing Center Sing Alongs:** Join your voice with others in an old-fashioned sing along. All ages and voices welcome! Bring your guitar, percussion and any other instruments to add to the celebration. Or spread out a picnic and enjoy. Contact: Liza at [lpkitchell@aol.com](mailto:lpkitchell@aol.com)

- **Thurs, June 22nd, Liza and Friends: World Music Picnic:** First in a series of Thursday evening "sing-alongs." For all Thursday shows, the garden opens at 5:30 for picnicking, music begins at 6:00. World Music Picnic is for everyone, and features songs from around the world. Listen or join in! Liza Kitchell, piano and vocals, will be joined by Mark T. on guitar; Art W. on bass guitar; Marisa K. on violin; Mark C. on clarinet.
- **Thurs, July 6th, Zing! Yiddish Sing-Along for All Ages:** Linda Gritz and Michael Katz will lead a Yiddish sing-along featuring East European songs and dances. Linda and Michael will teach Yiddish songs and dances, with music and lyrics, and explain the context behind the songs. All are welcome regardless of singing ability or knowledge of Yiddish.

- **Thurs, July 20th, Musicals: A Sing-Along!:** Featuring Carrie Furniss on vocals and Liza Kitchell on piano. Jazz vocalist, Carrie Furniss, will sing songs from popular musicals. Song lyrics will be projected onto a movie screen so that the audience can sing-along. Just good old-fashioned fun!
- **Thurs, August 3rd, Chantey Sing: Chantey Sing:** A sea chantey sing-along with Lynn Noel. Lynn Noel has a voice of striking clarity and power, as wide and deep as her repertoire. She is equally at home in a flowing, traditional ballad or a rousing sea chantey, delivered in English or French. She sings in fourteen languages from Gaelic to Zulu to Inuktitut, accompanying herself and her harmony groups on mountain dulcimer, string bass, bodhran, spoons, and step-dancing feet. Bring your voices and join in the song.

### **YouthQuake Theater**

June 15th- 18th, afternoons/evenings

Founded in June 2012, Youthquake Theater started out with a random idea (Let's do Hamlet in the backyard!) and took off with a bang. Youthquake is a great way for youth, in a large range of ages, to stage the works of William Shakespeare and other great plays. We are proud to say that our productions are organized, acted, and directed entirely by children and teens

### **Summer Picnic Series:**

- **Solar Picnic:** Saturday, June 24th, 11am - 2pm
  - Solar Cooker Picnic - Join with friends and neighbors from 11AM to 2PM on Saturday, June 24th, at the Somerville Community Growing Center (22 Vinal Ave.) to celebrate the beginning of summer! Learn about solar cookers, energy efficiency, and how soil can help reverse global warming. Snacks and beverages will be provided; please feel welcome to bring a dish to share. Co-sponsored by the Boston Area Solar Energy Association and Soil4Climate.
- **Eat, Play, Sleep:** July 22nd, 11am - 2pm
- **Celebrating Our Volunteers:** August 26th, 11am - 2pm

### **Portrait for a Story: Storytelling, Community and Visual Arts Interconnected**

Saturday, June 24th, 12pm - 2pm

### **Poetry in the Garden Series**

Thursday, June 29th, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

A series devoted to bring engaging, creative and insightful poetry readings to the community.

### **Toast and Tea: Hosted by Fallon's Daily Toast**

Last Fridays, June - August, 6pm - 8pm

An evening of community building through eclectic arts and communication ranging from poetry to juggling to meditation all accompanied by complimentary tea and toast.

### **Hoops of Hope and Circle Storytelling**



**Date TBD May or June**

Make your own "hoop of hope" from prunings and string, with Nyanna and Ziggy, who will guide participants through the process, encouraging sharing of related stories.

**so+so, the frost heaves, and friends****Saturday, August 5th, 2-6pm**

Join us for a fun-filled afternoon of music with so+so: Playing Cambridge and Somerville as a two- to four-piece, since 2001. They write their own songs and back each other up. There's a song called *Chicken Is Thinking*, and there's one called *Clues In the Woods*. The band sometimes perform covers...and always cover for one another. Bring a picnic, friends, enjoy live music in a garden setting!

**Growing Somerville Voices: Teen Open Mic Night**

Thursday, August 8th, 4:00-7:00pm

Join local youth for an evening of song, spoken word or music, coordinated by Teen Empowerment. Contact: Teen Empowerment (617) 625-6600 x2255 or [sassy@teenempowerment.org](mailto:sassy@teenempowerment.org).

**AntiMorris Dance and Pumpkin Carols**

October 31st, approx. 5-6:30pm, rain or shine (check website)

Pumpkin Carols followed by the AntiMorris at Sunset, danced by Recently Traditional Fictional Morris. The dancers shall fade silently into the night upon conclusion of the dance.

Contact: Jeremy 617-718-9623 or [rftm@peculiarity.net](mailto:rftm@peculiarity.net)

**Movie Screenings****SCATV Outdoor Film Screenings**

Thursday evenings, 8pm-10pm, every week July & August

A film series collaboration between SCATV and the Somerville Community Growing Center.

Picnic at 7:30pm and screenings begin at 8:30pm and will conclude no later than 10pm depending on the movie length. All films are either locally made or in public domain. The contact is Erica Jones at [ejones@scatvsomerville.org](mailto:ejones@scatvsomerville.org).

**OutTakes: SCATV Outdoor Youth Film Festival**

Thurs, August 17th, 6:00-8:00pm

A celebration of youth media from SCATV's summer youth media programs.

**Children (of all ages) Focused Special Events:**

**Teddy Bear Picnic**

Tuesday, June 27th from 5:30-7:00 pm (raindate: Thurs, June 29th)

Bring a picnic and your teddy bears (or other cuddly toys) and join with local families and friends of all ages for the Teddy Bear Picnic. Contact: Tara at 617-417-4904 or [aramcwc@gmail.com](mailto:aramcwc@gmail.com).

**Pajama Story Time**

Tuesdays from July 4th - July 25th, 6:00-7:00 pm

Pack a picnic, grab your favorite bedtime friend, get your pajamas on and come down to the garden for a nature & garden-themed story time. Stories will be told from 6:30 – 7; feel free to hang around afterward to relish a summer night in the garden. Stories will be geared for 3-6 year olds but all ages welcome. No registration required. Contact: Debbie at 781-771-0692 or at [schmidttopold@yahoo.com](mailto:schmidttopold@yahoo.com)

**A Gathering of Fairies**

Sunday, October 1st from 2-4 pm (rain or shine!)

A garden celebration for fairies and their friends: build a fairy house, create a fairy wand, listen to a fairy story, and search the garden for signs of fairies. Everyone is invited to come dressed up as a fairy or their favorite magical being. A fairy fun time is guaranteed for all!

Before the event, find time to go outside and collect natural materials such as feathers, stones, shells, twigs, bark, pods, pinecones and other plant material and bring them with you so you can build a fairy house as your very own gift to the fairies. A limited supply of materials will also be available at the event. Donations are encouraged to support the Growing Center and future Gatherings of Fairies. Please note that this event will take place rain or shine.

For more information, visit [www.thegrowingcenter.org](http://www.thegrowingcenter.org)

**On-going Children's Programming:****The Dragonflies: Farm-Learn-Play**

Mondays, May - June, 2:45-4:45pm

Ages: 10-13 with an adult partner (younger siblings welcome). Young farmers of all skill levels are invited to join us in the garden to plant, water, weed, harvest and play. We are growing for learning and fun, with a focus this season on seed saving. Contact: Aileen at

[growingcenter@aol.com](mailto:growingcenter@aol.com).

**Growing Center Playgroup**

Fridays from April 26<sup>th</sup> to June 28<sup>th</sup>, then check web, but usually into October, 9 am-1 pm

Play! Play! Play! For children age 0-5 years of age and their caregivers. No registration necessary. Parents take turns to provide this open drop in time, so if interested in volunteering, be in touch. Contact: Courtney: [courtnox1@yahoo.com](mailto:courtnox1@yahoo.com)

### **Homeschool Open Garden**

Mondays (informally), 1:30 - 2:30pm, Start date 4/8, end date 6/3

Come hang out at the Growing Center for nature play and parent chat. Wander up after homeschool soccer or drop by to enjoy the space and your neighbors. The Growing Center will be open for unstructured play and exploration, and we welcome anyone to join us. Linger with the little ones after the drop in play group? Curious about how normal (or not!) your local homeschooling community is? Itching to spend time outdoors with friends? Come and check it out! Please note, this park day is reliant on Growing Center volunteers that are part of the homeschooling community. It may be closed during inclement weather or if the host volunteers have a conflicting obligation. Please call or text Lauren Bell at 617.875.7450 if you have questions about whether the space is open.

### **Art in the Garden**

every Monday-Thursday from July 10th-August 17th, 9 am-3 pm

Summer art & recreation program, sliding scale, sponsored by the Somerville Arts Council.

Pre-registration required in April-- visit [www.somervilleartscouncil.org](http://www.somervilleartscouncil.org) . Contact: 617-625-6600 x2985.

### **Arts and Crafts Series - Saturday mornings**

- TBD: grapevine light balls
- TBD: Pollinator Walls
- TBD: Hoops of Hope
- TBD: Artists in the Garden
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## **Nature Related and Health & Wellness Activities**

### **Contemplative Full Moon Labyrinth Walks**

Sundays nearest the full moon:

- Sunday, April 9th -- 6:30 pm
- Sunday, May 7th -- 7:00 pm
- Sunday, June 11th -- 7:00 pm
- Sunday, July 9th -- 7:00 pm
- Sunday, August 6th -- 7:00 pm
- Sunday, September 10th -- 6:00 pm
- Sunday, October 1st -- 5:00 pm

Every month interested folks are invited to come walk the Growing Center's labyrinth as a meditative way to connect with grounding earth energy, the cycles of the moon, and our own cycles of energy, focus and intention. Katrina Piehler will lead a contemplative walk each month on the Sunday nearest the full moon. Contact Katrina at [katp32@yahoo.com](mailto:katp32@yahoo.com).

### **Essentrics: Release, Rebalance & Restore**



3rd Saturdays, June - September, 9am - 10am

Join us for a relaxed, but dynamic, deep ESSETRICS® full-body stretch that works through every joint & releases tight muscles. Effective for flexibility, mobility & pain-relief, as well as injury prevention and recovery...you won't find a class like this anywhere else!

### **Pollinator Party**

Wednesday, June 21st, 4-7pm

As part of the National Pollinator Week, 19th-25th, the Growing Center will host a "Pollinator Party."

### **Gentle Exercise in the Garden**

With Lauren Mayhew and Severina

### **Yoga in the Garden Series**

- **Yoga with Roberto Lim: Mondays July 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, 6:30pm-7:30pm:** Join local resident Roberto and Prana Vinyasa yoga teacher for a movement meditation practice that is strengthening, centering & liberating. All levels are welcome. ([www.robertolim.com](http://www.robertolim.com)).
- **Yoga with Jaime Silverstein: Tuesday June 6th and 20th & Tuesday Aug 15 and 29th, 6:30pm - 7:30pm:** Take your practice off the mat and into the garden. Learn to restore & balance through movement and breath practice while nurturing connection to the earth.
- **Yoga with Melissa Burnett: Thurs. June 8th, July 6th & Thurs. Sept. 7th and 21st, 6:30pm - 7:30pm:** Come join Melissa on Thursdays to refresh and warm up with a simple flow. All levels are welcome. We'll cover the basics, pairing movement and breath to create space in our bodies.

## **Food and Urban Agriculture**

### **Red Fire Farm CSA Distribution**

Wednesdays from June 7th through mid October, 3:30-6:30pm (check web to confirm times)  
Pre-ordered shares of vegetables (and some fruits) are delivered weekly. Contact Red Fire Farm to check on openings or check out other delivery sites. Contact: Red Fire Farm 413-467-SOIL or [www.redfirefarm.com](http://www.redfirefarm.com).

### **Urban Ag Learn/Work Opportunities:**

Pollinators:

TBD: Native Plants to support Pollinators

TBD: The role of bees, with a traveling viewing hive

TBD: Tufts grad student on topic TBD

TBD: Hear from members of the Boston Food Forest Coalition about edible forest gardening

Mushrooms:

May 13th, 11am - 1pm: Growing Your Own Mushrooms, participatory demo

TBD: Teas from organic herbs and local mushrooms with Tamim Teas

## **Volunteer/Community Participation Opportunities**

### **Work Days- Throughout the Season, generally once per month**

Spend time outdoors across the garden season, learn and/or teach, and help the garden thrive for all to enjoy! Wear clothes that can get dirty! Bring gloves, snacks, and/or water container if desired. Groups can be accommodated with prior arrangements. This is how the work gets done—your chance to get dirty while literally building community. Contact: Varies, please check web calendar or [volunteer@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:volunteer@thegrowingcenter.org)

### **Open Garden Saturdays**

Saturdays, May 6th to Sept 30th, from 9am-12pm

Volunteers make sure the Center is open for visitors to enjoy. Helping hands welcome! Or just come enjoy this little urban nature oasis. Contact: Erica Jones at [volunteer@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:volunteer@thegrowingcenter.org).

### **Volunteer Orientations**

Saturdays, May 6th to Sept 30th, from 10am-11am

Join our core group of volunteers who keep this place alive. Orientations are offered throughout the season and last about one hour. Organizations offering programs or events on site must arrange to attend a training before your program start date. Childcare or language support available by prior arrangement, when possible. Contact: Erica Jones at [volunteer@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:volunteer@thegrowingcenter.org).

**Your Contributions of Energy and Ideas Welcome!** To volunteer, to sponsor or host a program or event, or to receive electronic notices of events or for other inquiries, contact us at [volunteer@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:volunteer@thegrowingcenter.org).