

Trailside Organic Farm Update: May 2025

May Workshop: Pot-Your-Own Tea Planter First of a Two-Part Series

Wednesday, May 14 at 1 PM at the entrance to Freeman Community Center

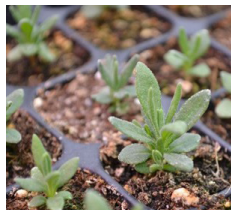
Plant your own tea herbs and, once they grow, learn how to make your own tea. Organic plants, organic compost-soil potting mix and planting containers will be provided. Farm staff will provide instruction. At this first installment, residents may choose and plant a selection of tea-making herbs: Lemon balm, hyssop, lavender, holy basil, chamomile and mint.

To sign up for this event, please give us a call at 717-220-8106 to reserve a spot.

We invite you to join us again in August for the second installment of the series. Katie Landis, Assistant Farm Manager, *Trailside Organic Farm* will be teaching a class on making tea from your fully-grown plants. Please check the August edition of *Neighborhood News* for details.



Mint



Lavender



Chamomile

Volunteer Program

May is busy planting season at the farm. Please check next month's publication for an update report on spring field work. Of course, as summer approaches and our crops grow, more volunteer help will be needed at the *Trailside Organic Farm*.

A variety of work is available, but we could especially use some extra hands with washing produce. No previous experience is necessary to volunteer. If you would like to sign up as a registered *Trailside* Volunteer, please contact Stacia Layser, Director of Communications/Volunteer Coordinator at 717-675-1514 and you will be placed on our email list. If you are already a *Trailside* Volunteer, we will continue to contact you with opportunities for sign-ups. Weekly volunteer opportunities will be available on Thursdays at the farm and Fridays at the farm market.

Friday Farm Market

Please watch your email for farm market dates and available produce. By the end of the month, markets are expected to be held every week as more produce begins to grow on the farm. Farm markets will be held on Fridays at 11 AM - 12:15 PM in the Freeman Community Center. We hope to see you there!

Welcoming a New Employee to the Trailside Organic Farm

Ariel Thalen is the newest Seasonal employee at the *Trailside Organic Farm*. Born and raised in Lebanon city, she currently resides in Annville. She is a Lebanon High School alum and holds an associate's degree in general studies from HACC. She enjoys being outside and spending time with friends and family, loves to sing and play instruments such as the guitar, banjo and alto saxophone. Ariel has worked professionally as a cook and has had a lifelong passion for food and cooking. More recently she has honed skills in leadership and compassionate care while working for local nonprofit organizations Hope Springs Farm and Vista Autism Services, respectively. Ariel is excited for the opportunity to grow with her community, doing work which she hopes will have a strong positive impact for years to come.

Finished Winter Projects

When visiting the farm, keep a lookout for some new additions: An herb garden of permanent raised beds, a retaining wall on the barn's north side, a new hoop house and native trees and shrubs planted around the landscape.

