

# LET'S GROW OUR GREENHOUSE!



Dear Parents, Teachers, and Staff,

As you may know, the Montauk School has a wonderful bright greenhouse, which underwent a \$10,000 renovation in the mid-90s thanks to the generosity of the Concerned Citizens of Montauk (CCOM). Some lucky students already use the greenhouse –Todd Brunn’s Science classes, Joe Malave’s Earth Science classes and after-school Garden Club, students in the Nature Club program offered by Third House Nature Center Inc., and, in the past, the Girl Scout Daisies.

As parents, educators, and earth-lovers, we’d love to see expanded opportunities for growing and learning in the greenhouse and the gardens outside of it. We have included a survey on the reverse side to find out more from the people who matter most in this endeavor: you, the teachers, parents, and students of the Montauk School.

We hope you will join us in this exciting endeavor!

Allison Harrington, Montauk School parent  
Jessica James, CCOM Outreach Co-Chair  
Stephanie Krusa, Third House Nature Center, Inc.  
Susan Vitale, Montauk Community Garden

*Please return surveys to the school by May 23rd.  
Feel free to add additional pages, if needed.*



# HELP Grow YOUR GREENHOUSE!

Dear Students,

We'd like to know if you have any ideas for ways we can use the greenhouse more. For instance, would you like to **grow mushrooms**, or maybe **earthworms**? Would you like to grow seeds and then **draw the plants** that grow?

What would **YOU** like to do in the greenhouse?  
Please let us know!

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Thanks!

## Dear Parents:

1. Would you like to see an expanded use for the greenhouse? Y \_\_\_ N\_\_\_.

2. Has your child used the greenhouse during or after school? Y \_\_\_ N\_\_\_.

If yes, please describe and tell us your child's grade level and which class or organization supervised the program. \_\_\_\_\_

3. If after-school greenhouse projects were available, would you enroll your child in such programming? (See checklist below for some ideas) Y \_\_\_ N\_\_\_.

4. Do you know of groups (Scouts, e.g.) that would be interested in participating in greenhouse activities? If so, please list \_\_\_\_\_

5. What activities/programs would you like to see in the greenhouse? Feel free to describe curriculum-based projects as well as after-school activities. \_\_\_\_\_

6. Would you be interested in participating in a project by volunteering to help with a specific project or with the overall greenhouse/garden operations? Y \_\_\_ N\_\_\_.

7. Do you have any interests or expertise that would be useful for a greenhouse project (gardening, nature photography etc.)? If so, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Information: Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone number** \_\_\_\_\_

**email** \_\_\_\_\_

## CHECKLIST

Below is a sampling of ideas for projects under consideration to give you an idea of possibilities. Please check off anything that appeals to you so we can gauge interest.

\_\_\_ science/math lab work based on garden projects

\_\_\_ sustainable/organic gardening practices

\_\_\_ history gardens (e.g. Shakespeare, colonial, Native American)

\_\_\_ "heirloom" and native plants

\_\_\_ making foods from the garden (pesto, salsa, etc.)

\_\_\_ painting identification signs for the garden

\_\_\_ botanical drawing or photography

\_\_\_ garden newsletter, blog, creative writing, or poetry

\_\_\_ mindfulness exercises (observation, meditation, quiet)

\_\_\_ exploring beneficial insects (ladybugs, lacewings, praying mantises)

\_\_\_ planting for native pollinators

Tell us your favorite crop to plant \_\_\_\_\_

***THANK YOU for your time in answering this survey!***

## Dear Teachers,

We are putting together a Greenhouse Committee, so that teachers are supported and not burdened because of any new activities in the greenhouse. The committee is here to help and do the work required! Please let us know your needs and thoughts by filling out this brief survey.

1. Do you currently use the greenhouse? Y\_\_\_ N\_\_\_
2. If yes, how often? a. daily \_\_\_ b. weekly \_\_\_ c. occasionally \_\_\_
3. If yes, what activities do you use the greenhouse for?

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4. If no, why haven't you used the greenhouse?

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5. What programs or activities would you like to see take place in and around the greenhouse and gardens? (See Checklist below for some ideas.)

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6. What type of assistance from a Greenhouse Committee would help or encourage you to spend more time in these green spaces with your students?

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7. Would you be interested in working with us to develop ideas for how you can incorporate the greenhouse in your classroom teaching or after-school activities?  
Y\_\_\_ N\_\_\_

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8. Is there any specific help or assistance you would like from the Greenhouse Committee at the present time? Please let us know!

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

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- \_\_\_ sustainable/organic gardening practices
- \_\_\_ history gardens (e.g. Shakespeare, colonial, Native American)
- \_\_\_ "heirloom" and native plants
- \_\_\_ making foods from the garden (pesto, salsa, etc.)
- \_\_\_ painting identification signs for the garden
- \_\_\_ botanical drawing or photography
- \_\_\_ garden newsletter, blog, creative writing, or poetry
- \_\_\_ mindfulness exercises (observation, meditation, quiet)
- \_\_\_ exploring beneficial insects (ladybugs, lacewings, praying mantises)
- \_\_\_ planting for native pollinators

Tell us your favorite crop to plant \_\_\_\_\_

***THANK YOU for your time in answering this survey! We want this project to support YOU!***