## **GREEN ORGANIZING ACTION TEAM:**"GOAT NOAT" FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

The monthly GOAT Noat is back after a summer break with more news **about the pilot program to collect residential food scraps in Baltimore City at five Department of Public Works Residential Drop-Off sites serving the City.** City residents can now take their scraps to any of the collection sites (see locations below). Food scraps make up about 25% of the residential waste stream. Redirecting these materials to composting programs will make a major contribution to the multipronged efforts by the City to reach zero waste as described in the "Less Waste, Better Baltimore" 2020 plan.



The pilot program began on July 12 and will be in effect for 3 to 4 months, until sometime in October or November when the program will be evaluated. Materials that are accepted include fruits and vegetables, eggshells, grains, coffee grounds, tea bags and bread. This list of accepted items is the same as the list that collections at the City's Farmer's Markets have used since 2019.

Compost Crew will haul the food scraps from the five sites and transport the material to the Prince George's County Organics Composting Facility. Compost Crew is one of a handful of companies in the area providing curbside food scrap collection for a monthly fee.

Please consider supporting this pilot program so that collecting and composting materials will become part of the City's service program and residential culture. The GOAT will follow up with an update this fall.

## **News from the Garden:**

The Garden Workday on August 28th was very successful. The garden looks better and the composter is installed. Figs continue to grow & ripen. Bees and butterflies are flying around many of the plants. Here are a few pictures from the past month in the garden.



Photo credit: Kathy Rogers

**Members of GOAT are:** Carol Beck, Gary Gillespie, Luke Mayhew, John McKusick, Rachael Neill, and Heather Ravlin