

## AN EXPLOSION THAT'S WELCOME AND ACTUALLY HELPS THE WORLD

*By CC Huffhines*

Sunshine is a welcome sight to us gardeners here in Windsor Gardens. One of the first lessons we are taught is to place your seeds so that the growing vegetables get a full eight to ten hours of direct sun each day. There are a few plants that prefer the shade, such as asparagus, but most require sunshine for healthy growth.

The sun is bright and hot on us gardeners, even as our plants benefit from its energy. A few of the gardeners enjoy the sun, working on a handsome tan. The rest of us wear headgear and long sleeves to avoid skin burns. (This has long been a challenge to me, as I sunburn easily.)

Where does this helpful light come from? It's the result of frequent nuclear explosions occurring deep inside the huge ball of fire that we call the Sun. Even though we dislike the energy-generated heat coming from the nuclear fusions, we know that our planet gets only minute fractions of this enormous energy that erupts into space.

Numerous poets have written extensively about this amazing fireball that is way out in space. The sun is a beautiful sight as it appears to move from the eastern skies to the west each day. This is a myth that demonstrates the smallness of us humans in understanding the magnificence of our universe. Of course, it's our planet's own rotation that causes us to watch the sun, seeming to move across the sky, as we stay solidly glued to Earth.