Building Community from the ROOTS Up

Community Gardening Programs

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“Any piece of land gardened by a group of people.”

- American Community Garden Association (ACGA)
WHY?

• To meet community needs
  – Land access
  – Community Beautification
  – Food Access/Hunger
  – Market Gardens
  – Fun - Socialize
  – Education
Types of Community Gardens

• Neighborhood and/or community gardens
• Educational and teaching opportunities
  – School gardens
  – Job training sites
• Gardens supporting families, immigrants, food banks or shelters
• Demonstration and display gardens
• Therapy gardens
Getting Started

- IDEA – Form a group
- Site Identification
- Contracts and Agreement
- Source Funding
- Design and Plan
- Build
- GROW!
Put the “Community” in your Community Garden!

• Encourage each other to maintain your plots
  *(visual areas that are maintained and kept will help to gain community support)*

• Encourage individual involvement

• Local organization involvement
  *(4-H, Master Gardeners, Lions, Kiwanis, Rotary, faith communities, etc…)*

• Include non-typical or lesser asked groups
CHALLENGES

- Growing season, weather, water
- Vandalism
- Insects, Pests, Disease, Weeds
- Neglect
- Funding
- Helpful yet uninformed folks
Credits

• Pictures taken by John Garlisch, Bernalillo County Extension
• Walser, Ron: Starting a Community Vegetable Garden Pub H-246 http://aces.nmsu.edu/pubs/_h/H-246.pdf
• American Community Gardening Association: Starting a Community Garden http://communitygarden.org/learn/starting-a-community-garden.php
• Gruber, Charlene and Kelsey Sparks: Plot Style Community Gardening in Minnesota, A preparation guide for new community gardeners. Powerpoint. blog.lib.umn.edu/efans/mgdirector/CommunityGardenPresentation.ppt
THANK YOU

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