

CCGA 9TH ANNUAL VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

CHICAGO COMMUNITY GARDENS:

OUR CHALLENGE TO BUILD & THRIVE

SERIES OF LIVE VIRTUAL SESSIONS • MARCH 16–30, 2022

For the past two years, community gardens and farms have risen to the challenges we've faced and have continued to serve as vital resources in our communities for good nutrition, physical activity, social connections, and environmental stewardship. How is community gardening evolving in Chicago? What have we learned and how do we ensure thriving community gardens for Chicago's future?

Join our slate of outstanding presenters who will create spaces to explore these questions together, share their knowledge, and provide actions we can all take as we begin the 2022 outdoor gardening season!

The registration fee is \$25 for adults and \$15 for students. Scholarships are available!

ALL presentations will be available for attendees on-demand after the conference.

Wednesday, March 16

5pm-6pm

All Hands on Deck to Conserve Monarch Butterflies

Wendy Caldwell, Executive Director, Monarch Joint Venture

6pm-7pm

Building a Community Through Conservation@Home:

A Panel on Stewardship & Native Plant Gardening

Gemini Bhalsod & Valerie Kehoe, University of Illinois Extension,
Alex Palmer, Urban Naturalist, & Emily Lambert, Kellogg Garden Club

Saturday, March 19

10am-11am

Urban Community Food Forests, Diverse Species Selection & Engagement Opportunities

Trinity Pierce, Stewardship Manager, Chicago Region Trees Initiative

11am-12pm

How Much Lead is There in Chicago's Soils, & What Can We Do About It?

Andrew Margenot, Assistant Professor University of Illinois

Wednesday, March 23

5pm-6pm

Community Food Navigator: Strengthening Community-led Food Solutions

Bahati Aimee, Project Manager/Community Steward, Deepa Gupta,
Project Director, & Wendy Manning, Lead Engagement Strategy/
Integration, Community Food Navigator

6pm-7pm

Aliarse con la naturaleza para cultivar un jardín floreciente - Working with Nature to Build a Thriving Garden (Presented in Spanish)

Emilia Arellano, Urban Gardening Education Manager, Garfield Park
Conservatory Alliance

Saturday, March 26

10am-11am

Maximizing Winter Production in Community Gardens (Spanish slides provided)

Michael Repkin, Executive Director, Urban Habitat Chicago &
Alex Barnes, Southern Illinois University

11am-12pm

Greenspace for Whom?

Paula Acevedo, Co-Director, El Paseo Community Garden

Wednesday, March 30

5pm-6pm

Using Community Science to Build Urban Habitat for Monarch Butterflies (Spanish materials provided)

Erika Hasle, Conservation Ecologist & Colleen McVeigh, Urban Conservation
Education Specialist, Field Museum

6pm-7pm

Advanced Soil & Media Testing: Options for Community Gardens Using Soil, Pure Compost, & Other Media Blends

Zachary Grant, Cook County Local Food Systems & Small Farms Educator



For more info and to register, visit
[chicagocommunitygardens.org/
conference-2022](http://chicagocommunitygardens.org/conference-2022)