

~Thank You~

"Many hands make light work." Truer words were never spoken, especially when we reflect on the incredible force that has transformed a vision into a reality. For the first time in recent history, Chicago community gardeners have come together to create an event that is specifically for gardeners, by gardeners. This is the first step towards strengthening the burgeoning garden leadership that is cropping up across the City of Chicago, and we intend to see it flourish.

Today's event would not be possible without the many talented hands, minds and hearts dedicated to strengthening and growing our gardener community. We are so grateful to all the people and organizations that have helped to make this event a success; we couldn't have done it without you.

EVENT SPONSORS

NeighborSpace • Openlands • Chicago Center for Green Technology
Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance • Mrs. Meyer's
Irv & Shelly's Fresh Picks • Lake Street Landscape Supply
Chicago Flower and Garden Show

VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS

Toni Anderson • Amy Beltemacchi • Lynn Bement • Jen Bogardus
Glenda Daniel • Caitlin Donato • Sarah Finkel • Lillian Fleming
Byran Glosik • Tim Goosby • Sallie Gordon • Cornelia Haley-Gamble
Sally Hamann • Breanne Heath • Ben Helphand • Elizabeth Howes
Mike Hrzic • Gabriel Irurhe • Dr. Shemuel Israel • Gina Jamison
Bea Jasper • Edde Jones • LaManda Joy • Robert Kartholl
Dorothy McGhee • Chuck McMillan • Jon Meyers
Qae-Dah Muhammad • Roveert Nevel • Mike Nowak • John Owens
Jessica Rinks • Mary Roberts • Elvia Rodriguez • Carolyn Royster
Julie Samuels • Jim Schaal • Jane Schenck • Maria Stone
Blanca Tapia • Angela Taylor • Samuel Taylor • Ryan Thompson
Corenna Vanderweele • Kelly Viselman • Britt Willey • Mattie Wilson
Ron Wolford • Nayima Wright • Joe Zarrow

CONNECTING CHICAGO COMMUNITY GARDENERS

Planting the Seeds of Community



***A Gathering for Community
Gardeners, by Community Gardeners***

A day for Chicago's community gardeners to connect,
learn, share ideas, and work together to grow strong
roots for the future of community gardening.

February 23, 2013

Registration opens at 9am
Event runs from 10am to 3pm
Breakfast and lunch provided

CCGT, 445 N Sacramento

For more info:
773-826-3240
info@neighbor-space.org

RSVP REQUIRED:

Sign up at <http://connectingchicagocommunitygardeners.eventbrite.com>

Like us on Facebook!
[facebook.com/ConnectingChicagoCommunityGardens](https://www.facebook.com/ConnectingChicagoCommunityGardens)

AGENDA

9-10 am	Registration and Light Breakfast
10-11:30 am	Welcome and Panel Discussion
11:30 am-1 pm	Complimentary Lunch
1:15-2 pm	Workshops (see descriptions below)
2:15-3 pm	Conclusion/Next Steps for Chicago's Community Gardens
3-4 pm	Mix and Mingle

YOUR EVENT CHECKLIST

Make sure you complete the following tasks throughout the day!

- ☐ Record a video for the CCCG Video Album (2nd Floor near the elevator)
- ☐ Complete a "Get to Know Your Fellow Gardeners" sheet and redeem for a prize!
- ☐ Attend a workshop, ask a question, share a garden story
- ☐ Sign up for next steps

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

Drops, Drips and Soil Bits: Water Conservation Tricks and Tips for Community Gardeners

Classroom Name: Rain Barrel

At this workshop you'll learn successful water conservation techniques from three local community gardens, increase your understanding of planting, watering, and soil building techniques that contribute to conservation and fertility, and take home hands-on techniques that can be used in your garden immediately.

Negotiating Space: The First Step in Growing a Garden

Classroom Name: Padlock

Negotiating space is the first step in creating and growing a community garden. This session looks to share individual experiences in negotiating the land we use for new gardens in the Chicagoland area. We'll share personal case studies for negotiating both with government entities and personal landowners: what was required, what mistakes were made, and what successes were realized.

"We Don't Just Grow Flowers and Vegetables, We Grow Money"

Classroom Name: Money Tree

At this workshop you'll obtain fundraising ideas for your community garden, identify stakeholders in your community, and discover resources available for your garden to tap into.

Let's Get Organized

Classroom Name: Clipboard

You can't have a community garden without community. How do you grow a community around your garden? Let's come up with a plan together for making it happen!

PANEL BIOGRAPHIES

Mike Nowak (Moderator) has been sharing green and gardening wisdom in the Chicago area on radio for 15 years—first at WGN and now as host of "The Mike Nowak Show" on WCPT 820AM and 92.5, 92.7, and 99.9 FM. In 2012, Mike and Chalet Nursery's Jennifer Brennan helped to launch "Dig In Chicago," a local television show dedicated to gardening and cooking, which they co-host. This year it enters its second season, and will be seen on WCIU-TV, "U Too" Channel 26.2 in the Chicago area. Mike co-founded the Midwest Ecological Landscape Alliance in 2002 and served as MELA's president for four years. He is president of the Chicago Recycling Coalition, in addition to being an Illinois Master Gardener and Openlands TreeKeeper. Find more about Mike at www.mikenowak.net.

Edde Jones is Program Director of Greencorps Chicago for the Chicago Department of Transportation. Hired in 1999 as the Training Coordinator for Greencorps Chicago, she became the program's Operations Director for Chicago's Department of Environment in 2001. Edde holds an Associate of Applied Science degree in Horticulture, a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology, and a Masters of Arts degree in Sociology with an emphasis in community change. She has worked over twenty years in the landscaping/horticulture industries while supporting community-based efforts. This dual interest background has provided an avenue to combine her passions of making the urban environment greener with a strong social justice mission of making "green innovations" more accessible to all residents.

Robert Nevel is an architect and urban farmer, chair of the KAM Isaiah Israel Congregation's Social Justice Committee, and an officer of the Congregation. In 2009 Robert founded the award-winning, nationally recognized KAMII Food Justice and Sustainability Program. The Program, which he directs, is focused on transforming unproductive urban lawns into food-producing gardens, growing and donating significant amounts of produce, teaching urban agriculture and sustainability skills, and advocating for healthy, local food systems and responsible energy, land, and water use.

Jane Schenck is the Gardening Program Specialist with the Chicago Park District. Jane has been gardening with children since she was 15 years old. She joined the Chicago Park District's kids gardening program in 2001 and has been overseeing the program since 2004. She began working with the Park District's Community Garden program in 2007.

Angela Taylor is a long time Garfield Park Resident and the leader of the Fulton Street Flower and Vegetable Garden. She is also the Garfield Park Community Garden Network Coordinator and a Board member of the Garfield Park Community Council.

Elvia R. Ochoa is an active member of the Alianza Verde in Pilsen, playing a major role in El Paseo de Jardines annual Pilsen garden tour. Elvia is also the Southwest Side Community Programs Coordinator for the Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago Children (CLOCC) where she has led efforts to promote healthy lifestyle choice among Pilsen residents since 2010.

Ron Wolford has been helping inner city Chicagoans bring beauty and vitality back to their neighborhoods through the Chicago Urban Horticulture program for 29 years. He also coordinates the Chicago Master Gardener and Master Composter programs and writes articles for the University of Illinois Extension Gardener's Corner. Wolford coordinates and supervises staff and volunteers at Extension's 1,200 square foot organic vegetable garden at the Museum of Science and Industry Smart Home. He also coordinates Extension's educational outreach efforts at the Chicago Flower and Garden Show, Macy's on State Flower Show, Taste of Chicago, the Green Festival, the Green and Growing Fair, Garfield Park Conservatory, Cook County Juvenile Detention Center, and LaRabida Children's Hospital.