

» Chicago Community Gardeners Association



The 3rd Annual Gathering of the Chicago Community Gardeners Association

March 7, 2015
9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Today's 3rd Annual Spring Gathering of the Chicago Community Gardeners Association will highlight **the most powerful resource available to Chicago's gardeners: each other.** There's lots of action to pack into today's gathering, all centered on sharing and eliciting creative approaches to common community gardening challenges and opportunities. We're continuing the tradition of holding an array of expert-facilitated workshops, as well as a garden gear giveaway, a tour of the CCGA website, free soil testing, and a light lunch. Welcome.

The Interim Steering Committee

Agenda

8:30 am – Registration and Check-in (Lunchroom)
Receive your name tag and garden gear giveaway info
Sign up for two workshop sessions
Make your way to the Warehouse for complimentary coffee

9:30 am – Welcome by CCGA, Connect with Neighborhood Networks (Warehouse)

10:00 to 10:50 am – Workshops, Session 1

11:00 to 11:50 am – Workshops, Session 2 (same topics & locations as Session 1)

12:00 to 1:30 pm – Lunch, Exhibits, Continued Networking (Lunchroom)

12:45 pm – Garden Gear Giveaway

Get Connected in Room 111

At some point today, make sure to swing by the computer lab in

Room 111 to do the following:

- Sign up to be on one of CCGA's action committees (next CCGA gathering set for April 18, 2015 — see back cover for details)
- Sign up for a Neighborhood Garden Network
- Surf the Chicago Community Gardening Association Website and learn how to post your garden's work days to the community calendar
- Take a Gathering survey and receive a free succulent!

Workshops

Creative Community Building in Community Gardens

Classroom 1 – Rm 108 – Lead Facilitator: Kashanna Eiland

A healthy vibrant community garden is one where people feel involved, engaged, and joyful, whether they are gardeners or not. Community gardens are ideal places for communities to gather for fun, for social justice, for fellowship. To think outside the flower box, come to this session where community gardeners will share creative ways they have activated community gardening space beyond gardening.

Edible Landscaping with a Permaculture Twist

Classroom 2 – Rm 110 – Lead Facilitator: Annamaria León

Fruit trees, berry bushes, brambles and more. Learn how to apply the basic principles of permaculture to create an edible perennial landscape in your community garden. Often referred to as “forest gardening” or “food forests”, panel presenters will discuss how these principles are being applied to private, small backyards, to community gardens in Chicago vacant lots, and to large school campuses to create lush, bountiful, and low maintenance gardens.

Gardening and Technology

Computer Lab – Rm 111 - Lead Facilitator: Patrick Porter

Discover how technology can make gardening a little easier, strengthening community and your garden. We'll offer hands-on training on the basics: how to engage, connect, and stay connected with other community gardeners through email and using the CCGA website.

Digging in – Transforming Garden Conflict into Constructive Growth

Classroom 3 – Rm 112 – Lead Facilitator: Kristin Bodiford

Conflict in a community garden can be disheartening, especially when the words “community garden” strike up images of everyone working together in harmony. However, conflict is a natural part of relationships and can be quite transformative. This interactive session will explore creative approaches to transforming conflict in which we view conflict as a valuable opportunity to grow and increase our understanding of ourselves and others.

Community Gardens as Message Sites for Soil and Water Security

Classroom 4 – Rm 115 – Lead Facilitator: Dr. Shemuel Israel

The United Nations General Assembly designated 2015 for yearlong soil celebrations, as a way to increase understanding of the importance of soil for food security and essential ecosystem functions. Join this session to discuss how community gardens are urgent and essential social places for understanding the importance of soil and water in everyday life. Community gardeners can leverage community gardens as important dissemination stations for messaging the crucial role that soil and water play in global health.

Spring Preparation and Planting Tips

Classroom 5 – Rm 109 – Lead Facilitator: Breanne Heath

Spring is an exciting time-- seeds are started, soil warms up, garden teams come together. This session explores the ways in which gardeners can kick off spring, whether by seed starting, garden clean up, or knowing how to get a volunteer crew lined up for a big work day.

Container Gardening

Rm 116 Workshop – Lead Facilitator: Ellen Newcomer and the Austin Green Team

Greenhouse Committee

Small space gardening in the city can happen in lots of ways; container gardening is a great solution. Join this workshop and learn big while gardening small.

Building Garden Structures

Warehouse B – S/R – Lead Facilitator: Robert Hart

This session walks participants through building trellises and compost bins in a unique, hands-on way. Participants will build these structures and learn about their usefulness in the garden.

<-- To Parking Lot

YOU ENTERED HERE

Room 104
Coat Check/
Giveaway

Room 106

Room 108
Creative Community
Building in Community
Gardens

Room 110
Edible Landscaping with a
Permaculture Twist

Room 112
Digging In - Transform-
ing Garden Conflict into
Constructive Growth

Registration

Room 109
Spring Preparation and
Planting Tips

Room 111
Technology in the Garden
Workshop
Survey - FREE SUCCULENT

Room 113

Lunchroom/ Exhibitors /
Networking

WEST TOWN
ACADEMY

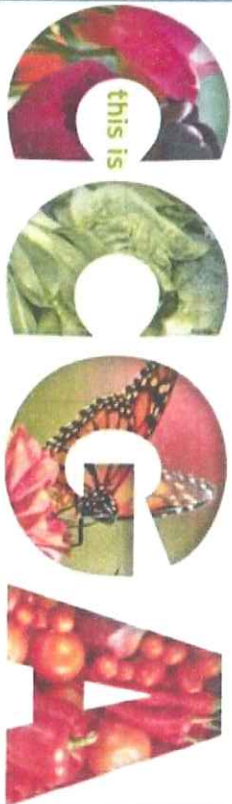
Room 123

Room 115
Community
Gardens as
Message Sites for
Soil and Water
Security

Room 116
Container
Gardening

Room 117

Chicago Community Gardeners Association



WAREHOUSE B

Building Garden
Structures

DUST
COLLECTOR
COURTYARD

SHIPPING & RECEIVING
SHOP & WAREHOUSE

Plenary Session
Coffee, Light Snacks

Chicago Community Gardeners Association - 3rd Annual CCGA Gathering, March 7th, 2015

Garden Networks

Don't see a network listed for your area or interest? Create a sign-up sheet for a new network in the Computer Lab (Rm 111) today.

Austin: Austin Green Team	austingreenteam@neighbor-space.org 773-829-6111
Bowmanville: Bowmanville Community Organization	bcchicago.org 773-262-2787
Bronzeville: Bronzeville Alliance Green Team	bronzevillealliance.org 773-373-5700
Cooperation Operation	coopop.org
Englewood: Resident Association of Greater Englewood (R.A.G.E.)	ragenglewood.org
Environment: G.E.T. Gardening	773-224-3296
Fruit: Midwest Fruit Explorers	midfex.org
Garfield Park: Garfield Park Community Council	gpccommunitycouncil.org
Howard Street: Howard Urban Garden Group	howardgarden@gmail.com
Humboldt Park: Growing Pride of Humboldt Park	facebook.com/GrowingPride 773-853-4179
Hyde Park: Gardens of Hyde Park	hydepark.org/gardens_of_HP-K
Little Village: Little Village Community Garden Network	mherrera@enlacechicago.org 312-504-0323
Logan Square: Corner Farm	cornerfarm.org/
North Lawndale: North Lawndale Greening Committee	nlgreeningcommittee.org
Northern Chicago: Peterson Garden Project	petersongarden.org 312-369-9009
Pilsen: Alianza Verde	pilsenalianzaverde@gmail.com 773-234-6168
Pullman: Historic Pullman Garden Club	hpgc.org, 773-568-2441
Rogers Park (West): Northtown Garden Society	northtowngardensociety.org
Rogers Park: Rogers Park Garden Group	rogersparksgardengroup.org
Roseland-Pullman: Roseland-Pullman Urban Ag. & Comm. Garden Network	facebook.com/ RoselandPullmanUrbanAgNet
Woodlawn: GROW Woodlawn	growwoodlawn.org 847-650-8507

Facilitator Bios

Kashanna Eiland serves as the founding Executive Director of Empowerment through Education and Exposure, a social impact agency that operates community and school gardens and provides Chicago's youth with pathways to STEM careers. **Erik Grossnickle** is a commercial arborist representative with Bartlett Tree Experts. Bartlett specializes in preventive health care for your trees and shrubs including soil management, insect and disease management, and general tree maintenance.

Kerry Hagy has been a gardener in El Coqui Garden of Humboldt park for eight years, and a garden coordinator for the past three. She was also the leader of the Humboldt Park Youth Garden Corps for three years, and a member of Growing Pride. **Robert Hart** was the son of a sharecropper from Elaine, AK. He started working on a plantation at an early age, where he learned most of his garden skills. He is part of Greening Environment Through Gardening, Austin Green Team, and CCGA.

Breanne Heath is a certified horticulturist and experienced edible garden educator who loves growing and teaching others about growing food! She currently manages community gardens and education programs with Peterson Garden Project, and is opening a pick-your-own farm in Back-of-the-Yards this spring.

Dr. Shemuel Israel is a holistic physician, quality soil management/healthy food advocate, program director for the Urban Transformation Network's urban ag training program, and president of the North Lawndale Greening Committee.

Nance Kiehm is the Founder and Director of Operations of Social Ecologies, engaging local residents in building healthy habits and spreading holistic, systematic thinking by creating and maintaining collaborative long-term neighborhood projects. **Annamaria León** completed her Permaculture Design Certification under the tutelage of Peter Bane, Keith Johnson, and Rhonda Baird in Bloomington, IN in Fall 2011. In 2013 she completed a Certificate in Sustainable Horticulture & Agriculture from the City Colleges of Chicago and Chicago Botanic Garden's Windy Harvest. **Ellen Newcomer** is a mother, grandmother, and fifty-year gardener.

Patrick Porter is the founder of Stir the Pot, whose mission is to alleviate hunger in and around Chicago's most vulnerable communities through the growing and distribution of fresh produce grown within the communities that need it most.

Cordia Pugh is a mother, grandmother, sister, friend, community organizer, passionate gardener and more to the people who know her. A voice of inspiration and hope, she speaks to the hearts of people, inspiring them to live life to the full.

Matthew Stephens is a permaculture designer and educator on Chicago's South Side. He has been living organically and exploring sustainable living in urban environments by working as a community organizer. earthreforestationproject.org
Jeanine Camille Toombs completed her Permaculture Design Certification under the tutelage of Peter Bane and Rhonda Baird in Naperville, IL. In Spring 2013. During the Summer of 2013 Jeanine participated in installing an edible landscape garden in Millennium Park Chicago.

Michael Webb is a personal gardener with a primary focus on soil organisms and nutrient flow in soil. He has grown nutrient dense food for Inspiration Kitchen Corporation and continues to consult with community gardens and private gardens.

Upcoming Events

April 3 - Soil Test Drop-off Deadline (drop-off in green container at CCGT)

April 18 - Spring Membership Gathering - 9 am to noon
9-10: Membership meeting - help CCGA move its mission forward
10-11: Soil analysis presentation & planting workshop
11-12: Pansy Giveaway

May 16 - Veggie Seedling Sharing and Workshop
9-12: Come pick up seedlings and stay for a planting workshop.

Details and locations to come.

Check chicagocommunitygardens.org for more info!

Complimentary Soil Analysis from Bartlett Tree Experts

Soil health is key to garden health, and we'd like to give a big thanks to Bartlett Tree Experts (BTE) for offering free soil analysis to CCGA gardens. The suggested retail value of the analysis is \$75, but we are offering it free of charge with a recommended \$15 donation for the service. You can pick up a soil bag and sampling instructions at the BTE Booth or the Chicago Chapter Bionutrient Food Association Booth from noon to 1:30 pm in the lunchroom.

Thank You

Bartlett Tree Experts, Clif Bar and Company, Wannamaker Seeds, Lake Street Landscapes, West Town Academy, NeighborSpace, Midwest Pesticides Center, Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance, G.E.T. Gardening, Austin Green Team, OpenLands, Juliann Salinas, Angela Taylor, Nita Hailey, Julie Samuels, Ellen Newcomer, Patrick Porter, Bea Jasper, Robert Hart, Gina Jamison, JW Glass, Kirsten Akre, Kashanna Eiland, Kerry Hagy, Breanne Heath, Annamaria León, Cordia Pugh, Matthew Stephens, Jeanine Camille Toombs, Dr. Shemuel Israel, Pat Jackson, Kristin Bodiford, Amy Olson

Please remember to take a Gathering survey today
in Rm 111 to receive a **free succulent!**