



ACGA

2014 • CHICAGO

*gateway to community in
the city of neighborhoods*

AUGUST 7-10, 2014

THE FIELD MUSEUM

35TH ANNUAL
CONFERENCE
program guide

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Conference Logo and Graphic Design
by Britta Hernalsteen
www.findbritta.com

Friends of ACGA,

On behalf of the American Community Gardening Association's Board of Directors, and the Chicago Conference Organizing Committee, I welcome you to the ACGA's 35th Annual National Conference, "Gateway to Community in the City of Neighborhoods."

I would like to thank the Chicago Conference Committee for their hard work to make this 2014 ACGA Conference a reality; also the volunteers and our sponsors for supporting the conference as without you this conference could not have taken place.

I would like to thank the conference attendees that have traveled from all parts of North America and many foreign countries to be with us to celebrate ACGA's return to Chicago where 35 years ago community gardeners gathered to create an organization around community gardening... the American Community Gardening Association! 35 years later, ACGA continues to be the go to source on community gardening!

We are excited that you have joined us. May your conference experiences be positive, your networking connections ever growing, your gained knowledge inspiring, and the friends that you make at the conference lifelong, so that when you return to your home towns, your efforts will be bountiful and make a difference in your community.

Thank you for being with us in Chicago to celebrate ACGA's 35th anniversary and to lay the groundwork for the next 35 years!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Maynard". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Bill Maynard
President, ACGA

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ACGA_CommGarden
American Community Gardening Association



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

August 7, 2014

Dear Friends:

As Mayor and on behalf of the City of Chicago, I am pleased to extend warmest greetings to all of those gathered for the American Community Gardening Association's 35th Annual Conference.

Founded right here in Chicago in 1979, the American Community Gardening Association (ACGA) does work that impacts and empowers entire communities in both the United States and Canada. For 35 years, involved programming rooted in gardening and food education, urban and rural land management, and forestry and preservation in addition to a great many other initiatives have informed and inspired diverse residents near and far to lead greener lives. The American Community Gardening Association maintains a mission to fortify our greater culture through the manifold artistry of gardening.

I am truly delighted to welcome ACGA home as Chicago is home to hundreds of community gardens and urban farms. Together they play an important role in not just feeding our communities, but also providing beautiful community-driven places in our neighborhoods where young and old alike connect with nature and each other. They make our city and cities across the country, safer, healthier, and more sustainable. Just as the conference theme proclaims, community gardens are most certainly the "Gateway to Community," and this conference presents a special opportunity to commemorate ACGA's enduring history while celebrating its dynamic future. I commend the American Community Gardening Association for work that continues to bring the immeasurable gifts of gardening to every generation.

I hope that those visiting our great city take the time to experience some of the special places in Chicago. Our historic neighborhoods, iconic skyline, and incredible lakefront invite you to explore all Chicago has to offer. I hope you have a chance to sample our distinguished restaurants, tour our great universities, and visit our world class museum during your stay.

Best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable event, and much continued success.

Sincerely,

Mayor



Dear ACGA,

Connecting Chicago Community Gardens (CCCG) is a network of Chicago gardeners who have come together to grow deep roots in our communities. Our gardens vary from a pot or two on someone's balcony, raised beds in a community lot, to a roof top on a condo. What we all have in common is our passion of growing and networking together to learn from one another.

35 years ago ACGA was founded in Chicago, which has long been a center of community gardening and urban agriculture. On behalf of the hundreds of Chicago community gardens we would like to welcome the American Community Gardening Association back to the Windy City. We are proud to open up our garden gates to our fellow gardeners from across the country and beyond.

This year's conference theme, "Gateway to Community in the City of Neighborhoods," celebrates the big and small ways community gardens bring communities together. We all love to harvest, taste and smell the flowers, fruits and vegetables we grow. But community gardeners know that with each workday and barbeque our neighborhoods are more beautiful, safe, healthy and happy places to live and play.

We would like to say Hello ACGA and Thank you for coming!

— Chicago's Community Gardeners

FOOD AT THE CONFERENCE

BREAKFASTS AND FRIDAY LUNCH

The Field Museum Restaurants: Field Bistro and Explorer Café

Field Museum Restaurants Promote Sustainability

Chicago's Field Museum has furthered its commitment to sustainability with the opening of two restaurants in late 2013, the Field Bistro and the family-oriented Explorer Café. The two dining spots, which feature locally produced or grown ingredients, replaced McDonald's and Corner Bakery.

The restaurants, which are ingredient-driven and serve a variety of regional and international dishes, are complemented by The Bistro Bar, serving up local craft beer, including a creation made especially for the museum in partnership with Off Color Brewing: Tooth & Claw, a Czech-style Pilsner inspired by t-rex Sue, one of the museum's main attractions.

"The Field Bistro developed from a belief that we needed to integrate the restaurants into the Museum's core missions of conservation and education," said Megan Williams Beckett, Director of Special Events, Tourism Group Sales and Food Operations at the Field Museum. "With this in mind, we brought in experts on local farms as well as waste reduction to create a food service that serves our guests in the most sustainable way possible."

Both restaurants are gold members of We Compost, a program of the Illinois Food Scrap Coalition designed to commend Illinois organizations and restaurants that dispose of food waste in a sustainable way.

The two restaurants follow a ten-year environmental strategy (created in partnership with Beyond Green, a sustainable foodservice consulting firm) designed to reduce food waste, use energy more efficiently, and provide better quality food.

by Margot Tuchler
Margot is a senior at Duke University studying International Comparative Studies and Italian.

This article is from FoodTank:
The Food Think Tank, July 1, 2014

GARDEN SOIRÉE CATERING Jewell Events Catering



We at Jewell Events Catering have always focused on maintaining our classic standards of food and service, while advancing through innovation, progressive culinary development, embracing technology and recognizing global realities.

For that reason we have established the Jewell Green Initiative, acknowledging our place in the larger world and our responsibilities to it. Our challenge as caterers is to be stewards of the environment while maintaining our premier-class cuisine.

www.georgejewell.com

things to know!

- * You will receive coupons for each meal when you register.
- * Vegan and vegetarian options will be available for all meals.
- * All food must be consumed in the restaurants except Saturday lunch which will be served on the buses and eaten on the way to your tour locations.
- * Breakfast will be served Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 8:00-9:00am in The Explorer Café.
- * Friday lunch you can take your pick from the Explorer Café or the Field Bistro from 12:00-1:30pm.
- * Saturday's lunch will be provided on the buses.

PRE-CONFERENCE & WELCOME DINNER

Irv and Shelly's Fresh Picks



Mission: Our mission is to make great healthy foods available to everyone by supporting our local farms. We are committed to bringing you the freshest organic and natural foods in the most sustainable way.

What We Do: We make healthy food deliveries to homes and businesses all year-round. You get to choose from the best organic produce, grass-fed meats, farm fresh eggs & dairy, baked goods, seasonal boxes and other tasty grocery items.

A Community Partner: We partner with community groups, food pantries and schools to promote access to healthy food and green living. Our support of over 100 urban and rural Midwest farms has led to expanded food production, employment and income.

www.freshpicks.com

SATURDAY TOUR LUNCH

Chipotle



Food With Integrity

It means serving the very best sustainably raised food possible with an eye to great taste, great nutrition and great value.

It means that we support and sustain family farmers who respect the land and the animals in their care.

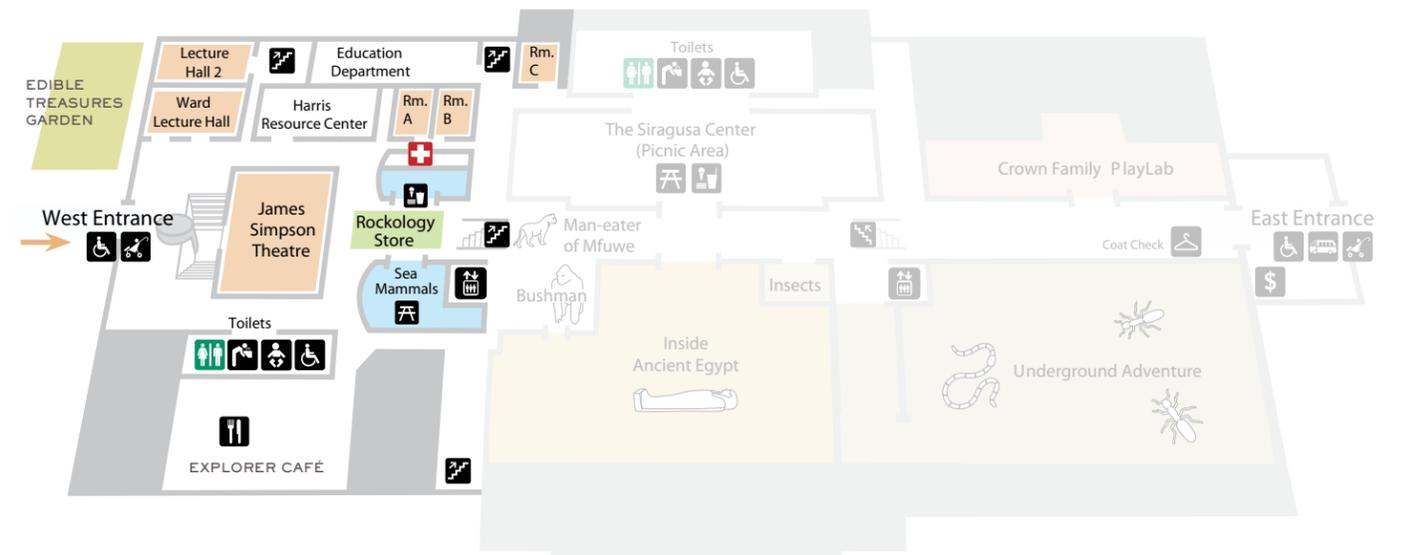
It means that whenever possible we use meat from animals raised without the use of antibiotics or added hormones.

And it means that we source organic and local produce when practical. And that we use dairy from cows raised without the use of synthetic hormones.

Food With Integrity is a journey that started more than a decade ago and one that will never end.

www.chipotle.com

THE FIELD MUSEUM

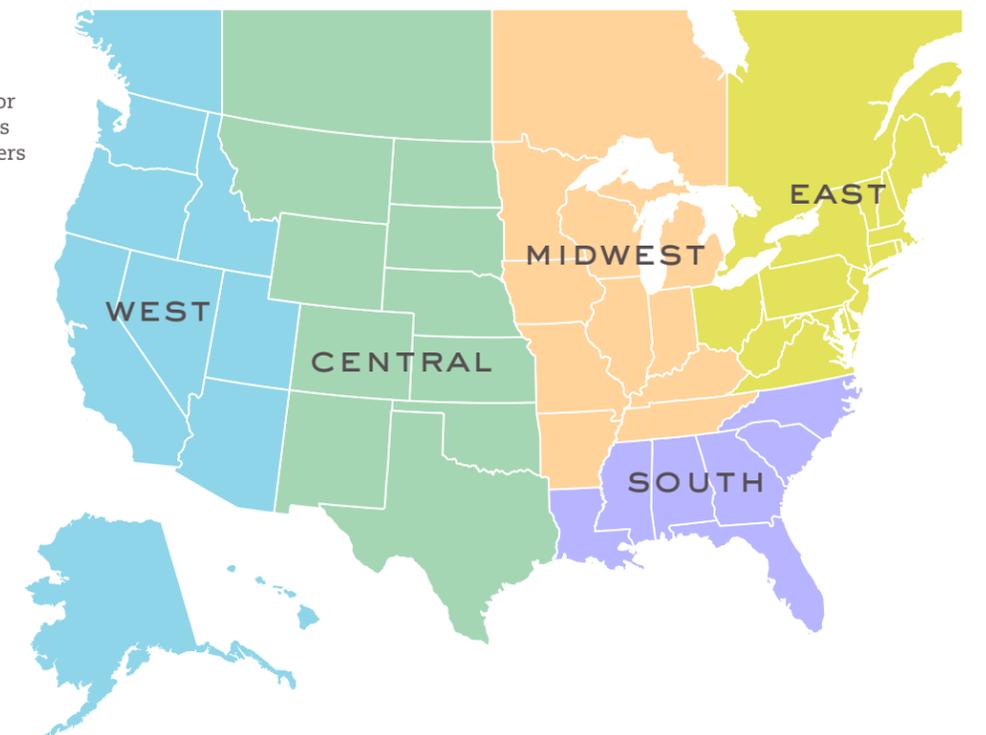


ACGA CONFERENCE LOCATIONS

- | | | | | | | | |
|---------|------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|-----|
| Stairs | Taxi Phone | Information | Restaurants | Handicapped | Baby Care Area | Vending | ATM |
| Toilets | Laboratory | Elevators | Coat Check | Water Fountain | Eating Area | Strollers | |

new this year!

We'll be providing opportunities for regional networking and breakouts so you can connect faster with peers in your area!



SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7		<i>kamii synagogue + the field museum</i>
Transportation from The Field Museum to the Pre-Conference	12:30PM	
Pre-conference at KAMII Synagogue	1:30-8:00PM	
Registration at The Field Museum for those attending Welcome Dinner	3:00-5:00PM	
Transportation from The Field Museum to the Welcome Dinner	5:00PM	
Welcome Dinner at KAMII Synagogue	6:00-8:00PM	
Transportation from KAMII Synagogue to the Blackstone Hotel (636 S. Michigan Ave.)	8:00PM	
FRIDAY, AUGUST 8		<i>the field museum + garfield park conservatory</i>
Registration	7:30AM-5:00PM	
Breakfast in Explorer Café	8:00-9:00AM	
Opening Keynote	9:00-10:00AM	
Morning Workshop Tracks	10:15-11:00AM; 11:15AM-12:00PM	
Lunch in The Field Museum restaurants	12:00-1:30PM	
Afternoon Workshop Tracks	1:30-2:15PM; 2:30-3:15PM; 3:30-4:15PM	
Transportation from The Field Museum to Garden Soirée at Garfield Park Conservatory	5:00	
Garden Soirée at Garfield Park Conservatory	6:00-9:00PM	
Transportation from Garfield Park Conservatory to the Blackstone Hotel (636 S. Michigan Ave.)	9:00PM	
SATURDAY, AUGUST 9		<i>the field museum, tour locations</i>
Registration	7:30AM-12:00PM	
Breakfast in Explorer Café	8:00-9:00AM	
Opening Keynote	9:00-10:00AM	
Regional Networking Breakout	10:15-11:00AM	
Morning Workshop Tracks	11:15AM-12:00PM	
Transportation to Tours	12:00-1:00PM	
Lunch on Buses		
Tours	1:00-5:00PM	
Evening on your own to explore Chicago		
SUNDAY, AUGUST 10		<i>the field museum</i>
Registration	7:30AM-12:00PM	
Regional Networking Breakfast in Explorer Café	8:00-9:00AM	
Morning Workshop Tracks	9:15-10:00AM; 10:15-11:00AM	
Closing Keynote and Annual Meeting	11:15AM-12:30PM	

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS & PERFORMANCE



Dr. Marianne Krasny

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8

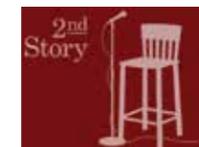
Marianne Krasny first discovered community gardens in 1998, when she visited a garden in the Lower East Side of Manhattan. She was fascinated by the mix of young people using food waste compost to generate heat for a greenhouse, and Bangladeshi immigrants growing an intercrop of pigeon peas, amaranth, marigolds, and flowering coriander. Captured by the potential for urban, ethnically diverse community gardens as sites for youth to learn about science, culture, community, and civic action, Professor Krasny initiated the Garden Mosaics intergenerational education program. Upon seeing the role of community gardening, tree-planting, habitat restoration, and other civic ecology practices in individual and community resilience, Dr. Krasny and colleague Keith Tidball founded the Cornell University Civic Ecology Lab. Currently, Dr. Krasny directs EPA's national environmental education training program ("EECapacity"), which supports online courses in urban environmental education, bridging across cultures, and other topics, and fosters exchange of ideas among urban environmental stewards, youth development professionals, and environmental educators, with the goal of helping environmental education enhance its effectiveness in an increasingly urban society. Recent edited books include: *Trading Zones in Environmental Education: Creating Transdisciplinary Dialogue* (with J Dillon), *Resilience in Social-Ecological Systems: the Role of Learning and Education* (with C Lundholm and R Plummer), and *Greening in the Red Zone* (with KG Tidball). A forthcoming book is entitled *Civic Ecology: Adaptation and Transformation from the Ground Up* (ME Krasny and KG Tidball, MIT Press). Dr. Krasny will teach her first MOOC (Massive Open Online Course), *Civic Ecology: Finding Meaning in City Life*, in winter 2015.



Dr. Roger Hart

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9

Roger Hart is a Professor of the Ph.D. Psychology and Earth and Environmental Sciences Programs of the Graduate Center of the City University of New York and Director of the Children's Environments Research Group (cernyc.org). There are two broad strands to his work. The first is on how children learn about, use and experience the physical environment and the practical applications of this to the planning and design of children's environments and to environmental education. The second is a concern with ways of listening to children and of involving them in the governance of their communities and institutions. Much of his research has been concerned with children living in difficult circumstances, both in the USA and internationally. In 1978 he published *Children's Experience of Place*, a natural history of children's lives in a New England town and he is now completing a book and film of how childhood has since changed in that town. With UNICEF he has published books on children's participation in sustainable development and the planning of cities. He has worked for many years to improve the play environments of New York City through research and consultation with the city parks department and through the development of "play gardens" for young children with community gardeners.



Garden Stories Chicago

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

Leading up to the ACGA Conference community gardeners from different corners of the city teamed up with 2nd Story Chicago on a series of story-sharing workshops. This performance is the culmination of that effort. Every Garden has dozens of tales to tell, if we stop to listen. Come hear from the gardeners themselves what gardening means to them, how it has transformed their lives, nourishing their bodies and souls. As you listen, we invite you to think of your own garden story. Performance includes a production by The Vonta Collection: A collective of multidisciplinary artist producing media for social change.

2nd Story is a collective of story-makers and story-lovers working together to build community through the power of storytelling. We host events (around Chicago and beyond) that fuse page, stage, and sound to deliver a unique, live, literary/theatrical experience.

2ndstory.com

Lost and Found: Rescuing Land and Food For Communities In Need

Start: 1:30pm

Location: KAMII Synagogue
1100 East Hyde Park Blvd., Chicago, IL 60615
773.924.1234

Panel

Domenic Vitiello (Moderator), Professor, City and Regional Planning, University of Pennsylvania

Royal Green – Operations Assistant, The Living Room Café, Inspiration Corporation

Kohar Jones, MD – Clinical Assistant Professor Department of Family Medicine, University of Chicago Medical Center and Director of Community Health and Service Learning

Rabbi Rachel Mikva, Ph.D. – Herman Schaalman Chair in Jewish Studies and Director, Center for Jewish, Christian and Islamic Studies, Chicago Theological Seminary

Dave Snyder – Farm Manager, Chicago FarmWorks, a food-pantry and transitional jobs farm on Chicago’s west side

Keynote Address

Robert Nevel, architect, urban farmer and pioneer in the food justice movement, is the founder, in 2009, of the award winning, nationally recognized KAM Isaiah Israel Food Justice and Sustainability Program.

Each growing season lovingly nurtured vegetables in community gardens rot. It takes a hand to move a garden’s undiscovered gold from plot to mouth. In this program, attendees will be inspired to lend a hand by learning how to establish gleaning and giving programs in their own community. Our hosts, KAM Isaiah Israel, built high production organic vegetable gardens on the lawns of houses of worship in the heart of a Chicago neighborhood to serve local soup kitchens. After establishing strong bonds with community kitchens, the gardeners added a gleaning program in local community gardens. The gleaning program adds 1,000 pounds of food to an annual donation of 2 tons of fresh organic produce.

Please join us for good food, thoughtful conversation and a walk through the gardens. We’ll begin with a panel discussion on food donation featuring a grower, a community health specialist, a recipient and a leader in the faith-based community. The panel will be followed by a World Café discussion. Then we’ll head out into the community and congregational gardens in the neighborhood to see the operations hands-on and learn from each other. Finally, we’ll break-bread together at the American Community Garden Association Conference welcome dinner.

- * Tours will occur rain or shine
- * Wear comfortable shoes and clothing
- * A bus to the pre-conference will leave The Field Museum at 12:30pm and drop off at the Blackstone Hotel at 8:00pm

Conference Attendee Welcome Dinner

Start: 6:00pm

Location: KAMII Synagogue
1100 East Hyde Park Blvd., Chicago, IL 60615
773.924.1234

Conference attendees will meet to network and enjoy a great locally sourced vegetarian meal provided by Irv & Shelly’s Fresh Picks. Meet the ACGA board, host committee, keynote speakers and other presenters at this fun mixer.

Special thanks to LTH Forum for volunteering their culinary expertise and sharing their love of local food with ACGA.

- * A bus to the pre-conference will leave The Field Museum at 12:30pm and drop off at the Blackstone Hotel at 8:00pm



10:15 - 11:00

Insects— Kill Them All?

Charlie Monroe, Vice President of ACGA

Insects— Kill Them All? Focuses on the importance of being able to properly ID insects and their impact on gardens. All insects are not harmful -some are beneficial. Managing the insect population of your garden impacts the harvest. Participants will be instructed on the basics of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) which is an environmentally friendly way to manage pests.

Identifying Neighborhood Resources or Asset Based Community Development (ABCD)

Betsy Johnson, Former ACGA Executive Director, Springfield Fool Policy Council

Tiana Keith, Neighborhood Liaison, City of Greenville

Elizabeth Wall-Bassett, Associate Professor, East Carolina University

Based on the workshop in ACGA’s Growing Communities Curriculum and actual practice in Greenville, NC learn how Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) brings a whole new perspective to identifying resources and gaining support for a community garden, farmer’s market, or other community endeavors.

Food System Chain Game

Eliza Fournier, Urban Youth Programs Director, Windy City Harvest Youth Farm

Youth Participants

The Chicago Botanic Garden’s Windy City Harvest Youth Farm will lead the Food System Chain Game. This interactive game examines the conventional and sustainable food systems. The workshop attendees will represent different parties in the conventional and sustainable food system chain and then compare and contrast the two systems.

The Other Side of the Community Garden Grant

Bill Dawson, Growing to Green Coordinator, Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens

Fiona Doherty, Horticulture Educator, Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens

One factor that impacts all community gardens is funding. Every garden leader could benefit from understanding grant requirements. Learn what grant reviewers are looking for along with how to correctly prepare and fill out a grant. Walk through the process of grant writing, wise spending and record keeping.

Urban Agriculture in Santiago, Chile: Recovering Traditional Heritage

Anibal Fuentes Palacios, Architect, NGO Cultivos Urbanos

Diego Manzo Olivari, Architect, NGO Cultivos Urbanos

In the practice of Urban Agriculture in Chile appears some practices that recover elements of indigenous and farming traditional cultures of the region. The most vivid example are the seeds interchange or Trafkintu, which is based in the tradition of the Mapuche barter, enhancing the sense of community.

11:15 - 12:00

Land Acquisition Best Practices

Demetrice Mills, Former Board President, Brooklyn Queens Land Trust

Magill Weber, Consultant, Mayes | Wilson & Associates, LLC

Learn best practices and get practical advice for acquiring land for your community garden, including buying land, leasing land, and other creative approaches to securing the dirt you need to grow your dreams.

Growing Cities: A film about urban farming in America

Dan Susman

Growing Cities is an inspiring new film about urban farming in America. It follows city dwellers who are transforming their communities one vacant lot, beehive, and rooftop farm at a time. In this session, the filmmaker will present clips from the film & lead a discussion around common challenges and best practices in urban agriculture.

Community Garden Program Managers' Roundtable

Marisa Manheim Director of Community Projects for Grow Pittsburgh

Libby Weiland, Program Manager, Vermont Community Garden Network

Sophia Feller, West Ward Neighborhood Partnership, Easton Pennsylvania

Erin Eriksen, Urban Harvest, Houston

Are you involved in an organization that organizes or supports community gardens in your hometown? Join other community garden program managers to share best practices, troubleshoot problems, and network!

The Policies and Strategies of Community Gardening and Urban Agriculture in the Seoul Metropolitan Area

Kang-Oh Lee, Executive Director, Seoul Green Trust Foundation

Wan-Soon Kim, Chairman of Seoul Urban Agriculture Committee

Chang-Woo Lee, Senior Research Fellow of the Seoul Institute

Chung-Hyeon Oh, Professor of Dongkuk University

This session presents the experiences and studies developing the urban agricultural policies at the metropolitan government level (the City of Seoul) and the primary local government level (Gangdong-gu). We will talk about how the Urban Agriculture Master Plan of Seoul was created and the regulations, guidelines and strategies of urban agriculture at both levels were made. We are going to discuss how to make a network through the Annual International Urban Agriculture Conference in Seoul (since 2013).

Conservation Techniques in a Semi-Arid Climate

Angela Hartsell, Community Gardens Program Manager, Green Spaces Alliance of South Texas

It's undeniable—the climate is warming and rainfall patterns are shifting. Many gardeners face diminishing water supplies. Green Spaces Alliance of South Texas has many ways to conserve water in our semi-arid climate. These practices can serve gardeners challenged by climate or infrastructure.

12:45 - 1:30

Pest Talk in Edible Treasures Garden

George Rotramel, Consulting Entomologist, Rotramel Technical Services

Free Pest Control! Using native predators and other biocontrols in food gardens. Participants will see and handle predators and other native biocontrols that do not bite or sting people or pets. The workshop will be in the Edible Treasures Garden where participants will observe biocontrol agents in action and work with tools and techniques that encourage and maintain native biocontrol populations in food gardens.

Trafkintü (Seed Exchange)

Anibal Fuentes Palacios, Architect, NGO Cultivos Urbanos

Diego Manzo Olivari, Architect, NGO Cultivos Urbanos

Take part in a seed exchange that stems from indigenous Mapuche traditions; it is a ceremony that encompasses economic, cultural and ritual elements.

1:30 - 2:15

Rainwater Usage in the Community Garden

Lenny Librizzi, Assistant Director, GrowNYC

Learn about the many ways to capture rainwater to benefit your community garden. Conserve water, prevent pollution and stop erosion with rainwater collection, bioswales, rain gardens, permeable paving and enhanced tree pits. Identifying the problem, what you can do to fix it and how to do it will be covered.

Rural Community Gardens From California to Monsanto Country: Challenges and Solutions

Dan Kenney, Founder, President, Executive Director, DeKalb County Community Gardens

Ana Rasmussen, Director, Mesa Verde Gardens

Community gardens in a rural setting offer unique opportunities and challenges. Learn from the stories and experiences of two successful rural community garden projects that are meeting the needs of low income residents in their counties. Mesa Verde Gardens in the Pajaro Valley region of Santa Cruz County California, home of Driscoll's Berries and DeKalb County Community Gardens, from the home of DeKalb Seed Corn, now sold by Monsanto, 60 miles west of Chicago.

Urban Orchards Panel Presentation

Moderator: Daniella Pereira, Regional Forester, Openlands

Anna Maria Leon, Community Gardener, TreeKeeper, and Permaculturist

Connor Shaw, Possibility Place Nursery

Anthony Le, Alliance for Community Trees, Community Groves Program

Fruit and nut orchards are all the rage but in reality it can be a challenging undertaking. This session will be presented as a panel discussion by experts including a nursery grower to a national orchard grants program manager. There will be a good amount of time for the audience to ask questions.

Building a Coalition of Community Gardens

Mara Gittleman, Board of Directors, NYC Community Garden Coalition

Magali Regis, Board of Directors, NYC Community Garden Coalition

Aside from planting seeds and greening the neighborhood, community gardening is also an act of community organizing. Come hear from members of NYC Community Garden Coalition about how and why they built a citywide coalition of community gardens and how to implement these ideas back home. This workshop will also cover community organizing within the garden as a means of building a more robust membership and how to keep up the momentum.

The Breath of the Land is the Life of the People

Jesse Lipman, Food Programs Coordinator, Kokua Kalihi Valley

Reggae McGowan, Kokua Kalihi Valley

The story of how a community health center became stewards of a 100 acre communal garden and reforestry preserve in urban Honolulu. This session will explain how this diverse low income community uses connections to food, land and culture to build health and cohesion.

2:30 - 3:15

Measuring the Harvest from Community Gardens Panel Presentations

Mara Gittleman, Project Director, Farming Concrete

Ben Helphand, Executive Director, NeighborSpace

Laura Lawson, Professor of Landscape Architecture, Rutgers University

Philip Silva, Outreach Fellow, Five Borough Farm

Domenic Vitiello, Associate Professor of City Planning and Urban Studies, University of Pennsylvania

This panel will review and reflect upon the results of recent projects that have engaged community gardeners in documenting their production, distribution, and use of food as well as skills, compost, relationships, and many other things cultivated and harvested from community gardens in New York, Chicago, and other cities.

Junior Master Gardening in a Nut Shell

Bonny Hajducko, Master Gardener, Broward County Farm Bureau

Is your garden multi-generational? Don't know how to engage the children offering them more to do than weed and digging in the dirt? Get an overview of a program that is the perfect companion of the garden setting that will make your children's time fun and educational.

Grassroots Gardening

Kristin Brock, Senior Program Specialist, Chicago Park District

Emily Dwyer, Community Coordinator and Grants Manager, San Diego Community Garden Network

Judith Jacoby, Founder and Executive Director, San Diego Community Garden Network

Meredith Ledlie-Johnson, Community Nutrition Coordinator Virginia Tech University.

We propose to facilitate a round table discussion on fundamental community organizing principles and their parallels to community gardens (especially those just getting started). Sharing ideas for best practices through the lens of social justice, we hope to encourage a dialogue that provides ideas we can all take home to share.

A Guide to Community Seed Saving Projects

Breanne Heath, Program Manager, Peterson Garden Project

This lecture/hands-on workshop will present ideas and processes for creating community seed saving projects: why do them?; how to develop partnerships; how to build community and get long-term "buy-in"; workarounds for doing seed-saving on a small scale; and how to take it to the next level by hosting seed swaps and distributing seeds. We will end the lecture with a demonstration on seed cleaning techniques, and offer the opportunity for guests to take part.

Sustaining a Community Garden—Developing Effective Guidelines

Betsy Johnson, Former ACGA Executive Director, Springfield Food Policy Council

Rich MacDonald, Program Supervisor, Seattle P-Patch Community Gardening

Sandy Pernitz, Garden Coordinator, Seattle P-Patch Community

Sally McCabe-Pennsylvania Horticulture Society

Join a roundtable discussion with garden program leaders from Seattle, Philadelphia, and Boston about garden development and management tools. Gardens with upfront operational planning and effective time-tested guidelines ensure less time spent reinventing the wheel and more time gardening.

3:30 - 4:15

Design Charrette for Brand New Chicago Community Garden

Garden Leaders from the South Lawndale Triangle Garden
 Randall Taylor, Design Specialist, Christy Webber Landscapes
 Ben Helphand, NeighborSpace, Chicago

The residents of the South Lawndale Triangle have been working hard to create a community garden in the heart of their community. The land is secure, neighbors are organized and initial funding is in place. Now we're asking for the collective wisdom of ACGA to fine tune their design.

How Do City Governments Develop Successful Community Gardening/ Urban Agriculture Programs?

Hannah Shulman, Urban Agriculture Program Coordinator, San Francisco Recreation & Park Department
 Nancy Kohn, Director, GreenThumb NYC
 Sari Albornoz, Grow Local Program Director, Sustainable Food Center, Austin
 Meredith Gray, City of Austin

Community gardens have long been a grassroots, ground-up approach. Now that cities like New York, San Francisco, and Philadelphia have urban agriculture programs, what kinds of strategic support can these departments offer and what should be the best practices for developing a thoughtful city service to this community.

From Urban to Suburban and Everything In-between: Lessons learned from the Diversity of Community Gardens in the Garden State

Laura Lawson, Professor of Landscape Architecture, Rutgers University

This session seeks to underscore the diversity of community gardening projects that collectively convey the capacity of gardening to address individual and community needs. With examples drawn from New Jersey, this presentation highlights urban, suburban, and rural gardening programs that range in mission/goals, management strategies, land tenure, participation and challenges.

Operating a Tool and Resource Library as a Means to Fight Hunger

Alex Bryan, Garden Project Manager, Greater Lansing Food Bank-Garden Project
 Julie Lehman, Garden Program Coordinator, Greater Lansing Food Bank-Garden Project

An overview of a tool and resource library, as utilized by the Greater Lansing Food Bank—Garden Project, to fight hunger in mid-Michigan. This session will cover the basics of starting and maintaining a tool and resource lending library from site design.

Diversity in Community Gardens: A Qualitative Research Study

Sarah Hernandez, Current Graduate Student, University of Illinois at Chicago

This presentation will focus on a qualitative research study, which took place in community gardens across the Chicago area during the summer of 2013, concerning how community gardeners in diverse gardens relate to one another and make meaning of those social relationships to form a collective narrative.



GARDEN SOIRÉE

Thanks to the generosity of the Chicago Park District, the ACGA 35th Anniversary Celebration—The Garden Soirée—will be held in the historically significant Garfield Park Conservatory.

The Garfield Park Conservatory is one of the largest and most stunning conservatories in the nation. Often referred to as “landscape art under glass,” the conservatory occupies approximately 4.5 acres inside and out, where thousands of plant species are on display throughout eight rooms in this magnificent facility. Travel through the conservatory and experience the lush flora and tropical temperatures taking you away from the hustle and bustle of Chicago. Don't forget to visit the stunning outdoor gardens!

Join us for a festive evening of delicious food, local libations, and musical entertainment celebrating this significant milestone for the American Community Gardening Association.

35 year retrospective

We'll take a look back at the individuals and organizations that have contributed to the robust contributions of ACGA since 1979. Using visuals, spoken word and music, the retrospective will highlight the past and look forward to the next 35 years for the American Community Gardening Association.

silent auction

Be sure to check out the great silent auction prizes! Also, we are looking for prize donations-if you have something unique to your neck of the woods, or if you're artistic and can create a work of art in any medium, we would love to include it in our auction. You can indicate your donation on your registration form or download the form to the left.

dining

Catering will be provided by Jewell Events Catering using locally sourced ingredients. Thanks to Eli's Cheesecake for donating their incredible deserts and to Revolution Brewing for generously quenching our thirst.

entertainment

Strategically placed as you wander through the beautiful Garfield Park Conservatory, artists from around Chicago will serenade, entertain and excite at the Garden Soirée.

Transportation will be provided to and from Garfield Park Conservatory from The Field Museum for conference attendees.

11:15 - 12:00

Soil in the City

Michael Webb, Permaculturist, Soil Consultant

Dr. Shemuel Israel, President, North Lawndale Greening Committee, Chapter Leader, Bionutrient Food Association.

Mattie Wilson, Volunteer Program Coordinator, Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance

This session will focus on strategies for creating full spectrum nutrient balanced soils, techniques for selecting seeds and plant varieties for maximum nutrient uptake, and the metrics of analyzing the plant sap. We will also discuss the link between soil health, nutrient rich plants, and human health.

Chickens! The Enablers and Heroes of Community Gardens

Patricia Foreman, Author

This cutting-edge workshop explores the ever-expanding ways to employ chickens in community gardens. Learn how chickens create & enhance topsoil, help grow vegetables, decrease carbon footprints and be part of emergency preparedness plans—all while saving local taxpayer dollars. Understand why employing chickens is truly a community service.

Garden Mosaics and YardMap: Citizen Science in the Community Garden & School Garden

Caroline Kiang, Cornell Cooperative Extension

Betsy Johnson, Former ACGA Executive Director, Springfield Food Policy Council

Charlie Monroe, Vice President of ACGA

The Garden Mosaics Program was initiated in January 2002, through a four-year grant from the National Science Foundation. During the first two years, educators in 11 cities nationwide had conducted the program. The goal of Garden Mosaics is to promote science learning through linking youth with community gardeners and scientists.

Urban Food Citizens: How Detroit Gardeners are Growing More than Just Food

Lindsay Pielack, Co-Director, Keep Growing Detroit

Say nice things about Detroit! A bankrupt city? A food desert? One giant farm? Ignore all you've heard and come learn how Detroit's urban agriculture community is addressing challenges and utilizing Detroit's unique assets to re-localize the food economy while making an impact on the changing political, social and economic landscape.

Measuring Empowerment In Your Community Garden

Edna Robidas, Master of Landscape Architecture Candidate

Learn how to evaluate and measure community empowerment through a series of question building activities. These activities will provide a greater understanding of the community empowerment process, and how community gardens can be catalysts for empowerment and social change.



TOURS

Bouncing Back with Flair

Like many parts of our country, the South Eastside in Chicago is facing the challenges that come from the shrinking of the industrial heartland. Join us as we visit with residents and scholars that are helping rebuild from the inside out.

The President's Backyard

Head to the near south side in this tour of Bronzeville, Chicago's historic center of African American culture. Take in several food production gardens including a youth development program, an urban incubator farm, and a brownfield turned nature center, all in President Obama's backyard (well, practically)!

GET Gardening!

Join members of Greening Environment Through Gardening (GET Gardening) as they show us some of the fantastic work happening in their community.

The ABCs of the Southwest Side: Artists, Bungalows and Community Gardens

Join us as we tour parts of the greater southwest side of Chicago and see how gardens are greening up a variety of spaces in Chicago Lawn, McKinley Park, Pilsen, Marshall Square, and South Lawndale by including arts, culture, and community history.

Best of the West(side)

Just pardon us a bit, ladies and gentlemen, while we tend to our bees, goats, and trees in the Green Territories of Austin, Garfield Park and North Lawndale. We've been ranging for quite a while with the hopes that y'all will join us for a very memorable "Best of the West Garden Tour!"

Gardens as Social Enterprise

This tour of several long standing sustainable urban agriculture programs shows how urban farms can empower residents, create jobs, and enrich communities faced with disinvestment.

- * Tours will occur rain or shine
- * Wear comfortable shoes and clothing

Humboldt Park Community Garden Walking Tour

Join Growing Pride, the Garden Club of Humboldt Park, for their annual garden tour. Stroll through the northwest side gardens with the gardeners who love and tend them. This tour will take public transit to the northern end of Humboldt Park and walk south, stopping at a variety of new and long-established, collective and allotment gardens along the way. The tour ends with a block party celebrating a garden's one year anniversary.

Humboldt Park Community Garden Bike Tour

Bike your way around the Northwest Side neighborhood of Humboldt Park, visiting an array of community gardens, farms, and school gardens along the way. This tour is presented in partnership with Growing Pride, the Garden Club of Humboldt Park, which is hosting its annual garden tour that day, and West Town Bikes, a nonprofit that promotes youth bike education. The tour will be led by Growing Pride gardeners along with West Town Bikes youth interns. Everyone is invited to the end-of-tour block party. This tour will take public transit and bikes will be provided once we get to the park.

Urbs in Horto: City in a Garden

See why Chicago's motto truly does fit our city during this tour via public transit to three VERY urban garden spaces...on a roof, in a park, and in a vacant lot in the footprint of the former Cabrini Green housing projects.

School's out for the Summer

Did you know that there are more than 400 school gardens in the Chicago area? The most challenging factor for school gardens is the stewardship of the garden over summer break. Travel with us to the far north side as we visit with an elementary school, high school, and university to learn about how they have been able to create and sustain a successful school garden year round!



Lunch provided by Chipotle



Bus transportation provided by O'Neals

9:15 - 10:00

Assessing the Long-term Sustainability of Community Gardens

Marisa Manheim, Director of Community Projects, Grow Pittsburgh

Rayden Sorock, Community Garden Coordinator, Grow Pittsburgh

How do you define and measure a community garden's sustainability? In this workshop, Grow Pittsburgh will present our community Garden Sustainability Evaluation Tool, a "Cosmo Quiz-style" survey that quantifies a garden's overall sustainability. We seek feedback from participants to continue developing what we hope will be a widely-used evaluation tool.

The Urban Sugar Bush and American Indian Perspectives of Urban Land Management

Dr. Suzukovich III, Northwestern University and Urban Ecology Coordinator, The American Indian Center

Fawn Pochel, Community Science Facilitator, The American Indian Center in Chicago

David Bender, Community Science Facilitator, The American Indian Center in Chicago

Janie Pochel, Community Science Facilitator, The American Indian Center in Chicago

This session will talk about the role of urban prairie gardens and restoration sites in maintaining traditional tribal land management practices and their applications in a multi-tribal urban American Indian community.

Social and Emotional Learning in the Garden

Elvia Rodriguez Ochoa, Neighborhood Program Director, Openlands

Kristin Brock, Senior Program Specialist, Chicago Park District

Vicki Gerberich, Nutrition and Sustainable Studies Instructor, Roosevelt University

Lovay Singleton, Program Director, Veterans Employment Base Camp and Organic Garden

Social emotional learning (SEL) is a process for learning life skills, including how to deal with oneself, others and relationships, and work in an effective manner. Join us in a round table discussion; share your experiences and learn from others on the use of gardening to support this life long process.

Environmental Education in a Community Garden Setting

LaManda Joy, Executive Director, Peterson Garden Project

Working with Cornell University's Civic Ecology Lab, ACGA and Peterson Garden Project have explored how community gardens can be used for environmental education. Pop-up Victory Gardens on Chicago's North Side become learning labs for city dwellers otherwise not able to be actively engaged in the food growing process. From building the gardens in spring, planting, dealing with pests and disease and harvest, PGP's innovative education program focuses on long term gardeners, environmental awareness and skills that can last a lifetime.

10:15 - 11:00

Participatory Planning—Experiences from La Huerta Roots & Rays

Sara Ellis, Master of Urban Planning and Policy, University of Illinois at Chicago

Zoe Post, Masters of Architecture, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago

This session presents our experiences leading the remediation and redevelopment project for La Huerta Roots & Rays. We will talk about how to engage communities in participatory planning and the challenges and opportunities we faced in organizing the process. Our process is outlined here: <http://rootsandrays.weebly.com/>

Beyond Flowers: The (Re)Shaping of Identity in Community Gardens

Liat Racin

Community gardening may play an influential role in determining how gardeners understand their cultural heritage. I discuss the processes by which new types of knowledge on ethnicity emerge and enter the consciousness of community gardeners. This talk underscores the critical role of participatory urban land use in shaping facets of individual and community identity.

Reaping the Benefits: Community Gardening and Health in Chicago

Sarah R. Taylor, Researcher, Peterson Garden Project

Alexandra Nelson, Leadership Team, Peterson Garden Project

Grace Jaworski, Research Assistant, Northwestern University

Chicago is known for its food deserts and high rates of chronic disease. Can community gardening help? This workshop will share the results of recent research that examines the effects of community gardening on several aspects of health and wellbeing in two Chicago neighborhoods featuring Peterson Garden Project (PGP) gardens.

Organizing your School Garden Team

Kristin LoVerde, Education Coordinator, Openlands

Establishing a Garden Team is a key component to a school gardens long-term viability. Join us to learn how to recruit, organize, and sustain your Garden Team.

Global Garden: Where Community Gardeners and Refugee Farmers Grow Together

Linda Seyler, Farm Manager/Director, Global Garden Refugee Training Farm

LaManda Joy, Executive Director, Peterson Garden Project

Global Garden Refugee Training Farm and Peterson Garden Projects' Global Garden Community Garden share a 1.3 acre site in Albany Park, a densely populated, culturally diverse neighborhood on Chicago's north side. Come learn what happened when 75 refugee families and 724 community gardeners worked together to grow food and create an urban oasis.

Attack of the Killer Asparagus

and other lessons not learned in the garden

Mike Nowak

Illustrated by Allyson Hunter



It's here . . . and it's funny.

"Mike Nowak is one of the smartest, funniest people in the horticulture world today. I never thought that a description of powdery mildew would make me laugh out loud, but that was before I picked up this book. I've loved his radio show for years, and I'm so delighted to see his work in print at last!"

Amy Stewart, New York Times bestselling author of *Wicked Plants*

"Mike Nowak is a slapstick Everygardener, taking all our self-delusions, mishaps and confusions and playing them for big laughs."

Beth Botts, award-winning garden writer for the Chicago Tribune and Chicagoland Gardening Magazine

"Mike Nowak is capable of puncturing every ridiculously overblown expectation about having the ideal yard or garden with his needle-sharp wit and refreshing self-ridicule."

Michael Bryson, Director of Sustainability Studies at Roosevelt University and author of *Visions of the Land*.

www.aroundtheblockpress.com



With the right tools in the right hands, a community's dreams will grow. Season after season.



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It only takes one person to have a dream and a passion for helping others. From that point on, the only thing that gets in the way of making them a reality is persistence, heart and imagination. At Corona, we have witnessed what can be accomplished when a solitary vision leads to community support and continues to grow and give back to the community.

PETERSON GARDEN PROJECT

Congratulations to ACGA on 35 Years

Thank you ACGA for 35 years of helping to fulfill the dreams of so many who want to garden and produce fresh food for their families and community members. At Corona we think giving back to our communities is essential. Our goal is to provide access to quality tools that are built to last that help to establish and maintain community gardens across the country.

Corona Discount Tool Program

Every garden plot needs tools to build, plant and maintain them. With limited budgets, things like tools can be a major expense for community gardens. Through Corona's new tool program, we're providing substantial discounts on quality tools to ACGA members. It's an opportunity to save money on the tools you need that have helped organizations like Peterson Garden Project. Getting tools that last, cutting expenses and building new plots and dreams, season after season.



For more details on the Corona Tool Program visit coronatoolsusa.com/ACGA



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Hey — what's up with that funky logo?
It's an onion!

The name "Chicago" is derived from a French rendering of the Native American word shikaakwa, translated as "wild onion" or "wild garlic", from the Miami-Illinois language. The first known reference to the site of the current city of Chicago as "Checagou" was by Robert de LaSalle around 1679 in a memoir. Henri Joutel, in his journal of 1688, noted that the wild garlic, called "chicagoua," grew abundantly in the area.

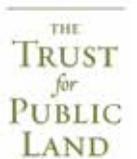
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