Dear,

Greetings! We hope you enjoy our new e-newsletter. Thanks to your support, we’re gearing up for a productive 2011, which will include celebrations of our 10 year anniversary! Read on to learn more about what’s new and exciting at Community GroundWorks.

The Community GroundWorks Staff

Keep Voting for the East High Youth Farm

Help the East High Youth Farm win $10,000
Community GroundWorks' East High Youth Farm partnership with the Goodman Community Center and East High School has been chosen as a finalist for Heartland Credit Union's Go Local campaign! Help us win a $10,000 donation—visit [https://www.heartlandcu.org/GoLocal/Finalists/Community-GroundWorks.aspx](https://www.heartlandcu.org/GoLocal/Finalists/Community-GroundWorks.aspx) and click on "vote for this finalist!" You can vote ONCE PER DAY until April 3rd.

With rising rates of obesity and food insecurity, our community needs creative solutions like the East High Youth Farm. A $10,000 donation from Heartland Credit Union will help us serve more kids and improve how we get fresh, healthful foods to members of our community.

Please vote and help us spread the word!

**Tips to Remind You to Vote Each Day:**

- Add the contest to your favorites on your web browser
- Consider setting our voting page as your homepage until April 3
- Set a daily reminder on your electronic calendar

**Youth Grow Local Conference**

Join youth gardening experts from around the city for the second annual Youth Grow Local Conference!

Saturday, March 5, 2011, 8am-1pm @ Goodman Community Center

- Learn how to start and maintain a school or community youth garden
- Network with others who are involved in the youth gardening movement
- Attend expert panels designed to assist both beginning and experienced gardeners
- Learn a variety of lesson plans and hands-on activities to use in your garden
- Meet public health professionals involved in researching and promoting youth gardening
- And much more!

Presented by Community GroundWorks in partnership with Goodman Community Center and UW Extension—Dane County. Additional conference partners include Madison Metropolitan School District, Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Sustain Dane, REAP Food Group, and University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Please visit our [website](#) for more information and online registration.

Questions? Contact Elizabeth Gering at elizabeth@troygardens.org or (608) 240-0409.
Community GroundWorks is Hiring Interns

We offer internships in most of our program areas including: Troy Community Farm, Madison FarmWorks, the Troy Kids’ Garden, the East High Youth Farm, Troy Natural Areas, and Nonprofit Administration. For more info, visit our website here.

Interested in a Garden Plot or CSA Share?

There’s still time to apply for your garden plot at Troy Community Gardens! The mail-in deadline is February 25 and the application can be found here.

The 2011 CSA brochures and worker share application are now available online! Join our CSA and get a weekly share of vegetables grown right in the City of Madison. All our shares come with free access to weekly u-pick flowers and fresh herbs in our CSA garden AND our farmers attend every pickup to answer your questions and help you pack your share from our farm-stand-style delivery. See photos of all our CSA shares from the last six years, look through our weekly newsletters, and download a sign up form from the CSA pages of our website.

Increase Your Vegetable Garden's Production this Year!

Madison FarmWorks will be teaching some classes around town in the next few months that will help participants get the most out of their gardens in 2011:

Help Your Vegetable Garden Produce Like a Vegetable Farm

This class is for the vegetable gardener who wants to delve more deeply into growing organically at home. The class will focus on intermediate and advanced gardening skills such as: garden design and layout to facilitate crop rotation and cover cropping, planting schedules and succession planting for maximum production, and tips on which vegetable varieties are best suited to our local climate. Take your gardening to the next level in 2011!

This class will be offered at the following locations:
Wednesday, February 23, 6-8pm, Olbrich Botanical Gardens

To register online:  http://www.olbrich.org/education/classes.cfm

Monday, February 28, 6-8pm, UW Mini Courses.

To register online:  http://www.union.wisc.edu/minicourses/index.asp

Tuesday, March 15, 6-8pm, Willy St. Co-op West.

For more information:  http://www.willystreet.coop/calendar

 Seed Starting for the Home Gardener

Starting your own seeds isn't as hard as you think!  Come visit the new passive solar greenhouse at Troy Gardens and go home ready to start seeds.  You will learn how to mix your own soil, build an inexpensive seed starting rack for your home, and learn the basics of starting seeds indoors in a small space.  Topics covered include seed starting schedule, soil mix recipes, tray options, seeding and planting techniques, growing conditions, hardening off, and an introduction to our favorite varieties. All participants will take home several plant starts.  Additional supplies will be available for purchase after class. Class takes place in the greenhouse at Troy Gardens, 502 Troy Drive.

Saturday, March 12, 10am-noon, registration through Willy St. Co-op

For more information:  http://www.willystreet.coop/calendar

 Ask the Capitol Gardeners

Last summer, Friday was maintenance day at the Capitol Garden.  It was always very fun to be admist the hustle and bustle of downtown each week.  Many people would stop by the garden to offer complements, ask about who was taking care of the garden, and want to know how it came to be.  And to the surprise of the Madison FarmWorks employees - many people had a question about their own garden!  So, we are starting a regular column in our e-newsletter that is titled "Ask the Capitol Gardeners".  Come one, come all, send in your burning gardening questions to be answered by the staff at Madison FarmWorks!  Send questions to madisonfarmworks@troygardens.org.  You might see your question in the next issue of the e-news!

 Make a Lasting Contribution to Community GroundWorks
Remember: By including Community GroundWorks as a beneficiary of your will, trust, or other estate plan, you’ll be providing a gift that will have an impact for generations to come. Learn more about planned giving options by contacting Jill Jacklitz, Executive Director, at (608) 240-0409 or jill@troygardens.org.

Stay in Touch With Community GroundWorks!

- Follow us on Twitter!
- Like us on Facebook!
- Add our Blog to your Google Reader!


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