

Growing Together

Co-operative Community Gardening

The goal of Co-operative Community Gardening is to establish sustainable gardening practices while supporting the agricultural and social infrastructure of local communities. Each of the Co-operative Community Gardens will be maintained solely through co-operative, volunteer efforts. Co-operative Community Gardening members will nurture a sense of community, connection, and also cultivate a sense of unity between and among co-operative members by Growing Together. With high unemployment rates and the retirement population growing, Co-operative Community Gardening may be used as a means of re-channeling labor during job loss and/or retirement into maintaining the integrity of the community as well as a means of establishing and/or deepening community relations. Co-operative Community Gardening may also serve as an intergenerational and interfaith meeting ground where faith of all denominations and religious backgrounds is expressed through good works. Fruits and vegetables raised through Co-operative Community Gardening efforts may be enjoyed by the cooperative members and their families and/or donated to various local charities, including families in need, to meet the growing numbers of local individuals and families facing economic hardship.

Project:

Build yard gardens, raised gardens, hanging gardens, pot gardens, roof gardens, and/or green houses that are to be maintained by co-operative members and/or volunteers to feed co-operative members and/or community members in need.

Need:

Land and/or yards seasonally donated to co-operative members by co-operative members for co-operative use, with materials to be donated and/or purchased by co-operative members and/or otherwise purchased cooperatively. Examples of needs: seeds, planting trays, clay pots, wood (for raised gardens), rain barrels, hoop house materials, soil, etc.

Task Force:

Co-operative members who are willing to donate time, talent, labor, and resources on a rotating basis, to break land, teach, cultivate seeds, distribute and plant seedlings, maintain gardens, build hoop houses, etc.

Here are a few resources dedicated to hoop house (green house) costs, construction, and maintenance.

www.hightunnels.org/ForGrowers/SitePlanning&Construction/Articles/CareyHow-toBuild.htm

www.noble.org/Ag/Horticulture/HoopConstruct/Index.htm

www.hightunnels.org/PDF/Hoop_House_Construction_for_New_Mexico.pdf

Contact:

Cristo L. Bowers
(734) 945-8828
cristobowers@yahoo.com