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Community Work Day at Hillcrest Unity Garden

Come join the residents of Hillcrest Community & the Organic Growers School at the Hillcrest Unity Garden, **Friday, March 8th from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM** for a day of hard work and good company!

Danny Suber, Hillcrest Unity Garden, and Liana Johannaber, Green Opportunities, will be leading volunteers in projects, including expanding the garden, building a tool shed, and installing raised beds.

We welcome you to open up the spring season for the Hillcrest Unity Garden with some excitement! We want to throw a party that celebrates the next season for the garden and to give people a chance to be a part of that garden. Smooth listening and tasty food will be provided, including entertainment by artists within the Hillcrest community. Come out and show your support! The Hillcrest Garden would appreciate a lot of love and attention. OGS participants in this service project will receive a $15 discount on their conference registration for their contribution!

Can’t make it out for the workday? There are other ways to support the Hillcrest Unity Garden! See **We Need Your Help!** below for suggestions.
Dear Ruth,

I hate housework, but I love gardening and working in my yard. I want to instill a love of gardening in my children. Do you have any suggestions that might get kids excited about gardening?

Ella K.
Asheville

Dear Ella,

Love your thinking! This subject is dear to my heart. Kids love being outside, and going outside is an instant attitude adjustment for kids and grownups too. Even little babies seem to get in a better mood when you take them outside. The smell of dirt actually raises your spirits, and farm kids are known to have less allergies and less asthma.

Your own enthusiasm will be contagious. Anytime you are working in your garden, just bring the kids along. Tasks will take longer to accomplish, but it is SO worth it. Don’t expect a lot from them initially (as far as weeding, etc). Just share your delight with the natural world.

Click here to read more at our blog!

We Need Your Help!

Since the fall of 2012, OGS has been working with residents of Hillcrest Community, a public housing development in Asheville NC, to plan and implement an expansion of the community garden at Hillcrest Apartments. The current community garden is 400 square feet and is used to produce healthy, fresh food for the community’s residents. On March 8th, 2013, in conjunction with the 29th annual OGS Spring Conference, we are co-hosting a Garden Expansion Work day at Hillcrest, to expand the garden to 1400 square feet. WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Below is the wish list of materials needed to make the Hillcrest Unity Garden expansion a success. We are interested in donating please call 828.668.2127 or contact meredith@organicgrowersschool.org.

Additionally, we are looking for volunteers to come out and work! Did you know OGS will give you a $15 discount off of your Conference registration if you sign up for the service day? SHOW YOUR SUPPORT for this awesome food security initiative by contributing cash, materials, or your time and strong muscles.

MARCH 8TH, 2013
HILLCREST WORK DAY WISH LIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description/Use</th>
<th>Price/unit with tax</th>
<th>Needed</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T-posts</td>
<td>5 ft posts for groundhog fencing (20 x 50 ft space)</td>
<td>$5.59/ea</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>$139.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welded Wire</td>
<td>For groundhog fencing 48&quot; h x 100' long</td>
<td>$72.57/roll</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$154.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toolshed</td>
<td>8 x 6 ft. pre-built lockable metal building</td>
<td>$250.00/ea</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garden Tools</td>
<td>Pointed tip shovels (5), standard hoes (3), garden rakes (2)</td>
<td>$15.00/ea</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lumber</td>
<td>2 x 6 x 12 boards for raised bed frames</td>
<td>$8.29/ea</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>$165.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebar</td>
<td>½ in x 4 ft. rebar for raised bed reinforcement</td>
<td>$3.19/ea</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>$76.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maddock</td>
<td>For digging trench</td>
<td>$35.00/ea</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garden hose</td>
<td>For watering 100 ft</td>
<td>$50.00/roll</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galvanized screws</td>
<td>For building raised beds</td>
<td>$15.00/box</td>
<td>1 box</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape Fabric</td>
<td>For preventing rot under raised beds and holding back weeds.</td>
<td>$80.00/roll</td>
<td>1 roll</td>
<td>$80.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compost</td>
<td>For filling raised beds</td>
<td>$45.00/cubic yard</td>
<td>28 yards</td>
<td>$1260.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Straw</td>
<td>Mulching in between beds</td>
<td>$4/bale</td>
<td>3 bales</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Tom –

We are interested in liability protection related to our farm operation. I heard a suggestion to form a Limited Liability Corporation. Will that protect us from lawsuits? Thanks

-- Andy in Burnsville

Andy –

Asking for tax or legal advice from another farmer has some risks, but for what it’s worth here is my farmer opinion shaped mainly by information on the web and by operating an LLC for ten years or so. A limited liability corporation (LLC) sounds great and it may be helpful in protecting your assets but it has “limits.” The main limit seems to be that negligent behavior can still result in a claim on the assets of the person who was negligent – either the farmer or an employee of the farm. Most sources recommend incorporation of some sort (such as an LLC) plus liability insurance...

Click here to read more at our blog!

CONTRIBUTE NOW!

Contact meredith@organicgrowersschool.org or call 828.668.2127

Conference Registration is Open!

Organic Growers School
Spring Conference

March 9-10, 2013

University of North Carolina at Asheville

A Weekend of Workshops for Beginning Gardeners to Advanced Commercial Growers

Featuring over 100 classes on all aspects of sustainable living!
Need Childcare at the Spring Conference?

Check out the Children's Program. It's like the Spring Conference, only Fun Sized.

9TH ANNUAL CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

- stretch yoga
- art classes
- look to nature for inspiration
- cooking for kids
- where food comes from
- animal games
- and more!

UNC-ASHEVILLE CAMPUS

Saturday & Sunday - March 9 & 10, 2013

Children's Program registration is $30 and must be accompanied by an adult registration to the conference. Register online at www.organicgrowersschool.org
Interested in Other Ways to Gain Exposure through the Spring Conference?

The OGS Conference Silent Auction is a great way to showcase your business or products, all while supporting a good cause! We welcome all kinds of donations from seeds to books to gift certificates. Consider a tax-deductible donation to support sustainable agriculture!

Contact Kristen Aldrich at kristen@organicgrowersschool.org or 828.367.7039 for details.