

Three Community Garden Stories – good gardens from good beginnings

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Community Garden location is critical –
partner support, safe location, water, sun, clean soil



Example of a volunteer-run pantry style garden

Vegetables grown using organic methods
All produce donated for distribution
through the Racine County Food Bank



Raised bed advantages – control over soil mix, weeding, watering, season extension







Creating the plan, and changing it



The Teaching Garden -

Rain Garden, Native Plants,
Trellising, Vegetables, Fruits, Herbs
and a Teaching Pavilion





Summer 2013

Two views of
The Teaching
Garden

Different styles and sizes of raised bed gardens:

- Retaining wall block
- Treated wood
- Resin based wood products
- Untreated wood
- Some kits, some not





Racine Urban Garden Network





We are now accepting applications
for the 2014 growing season!

RESERVE YOUR PLOT TODAY!

Our Mission Statement
With a passion for the environment and its future, members of the Racine Urban Garden Network seek to share knowledge, land, experience and harvest with the residents of the community and with those who share the dream of a sustainable future for the people of this community.

Our Vision Statement
Through community land use, education and resources provided by the community-at-large, we foresee a future in which vacant lots have become a gathering place for people working toward greater sustainability, where hands are dirtied by the soil, rather than calloused from video games, and where the generation gap is closed when everyone literally stops and smells the roses.

Start a community garden in your neighborhood today!

Adopt a garden through your church or workplace

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Learn more at www.RUGN.org or call 262.633.8239

Check @ DPT @rjgny



Racine Urban Garden Network



"We grow more than plants!"

At the Urban Garden...

Community Awareness



Friendships

Self Reliance



Knowledge

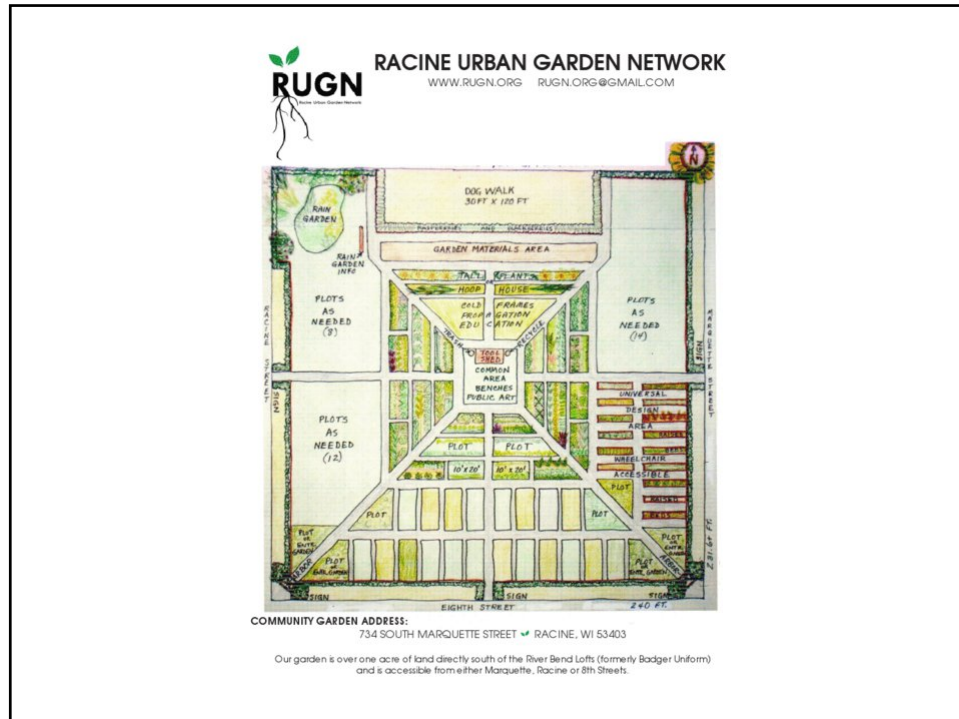
Confidence



...we grow more than plants!

Donations help the gardens grow. RUGN needs:

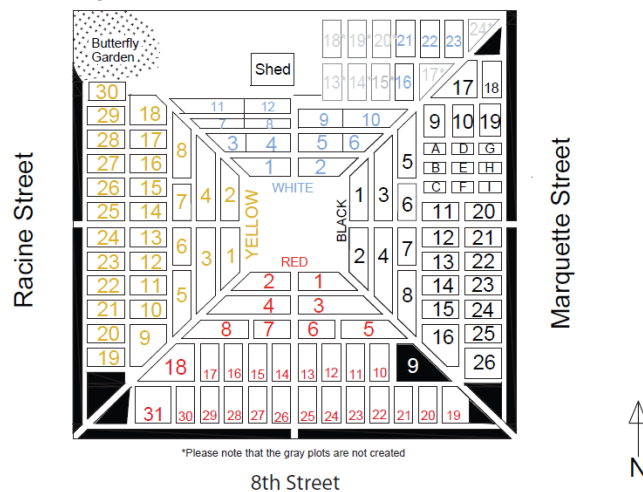
- Garden Machinery and Tools
- Lumber
- Seeds and plants
- Gardening books and other resources
- More gardeners



Racine Urban Garden Network

The first rental plot garden established 2010

Marquette Street Public Garden

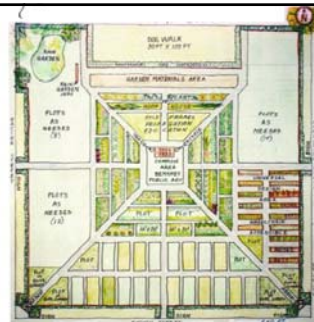


Marquette Street Community Garden



RUGN Community Events

- Educational programs for new gardeners
- Seed and plant exchange parties
- Mentoring from experienced gardeners, including UW-Extension Master Gardener Volunteers
- Lunch and dinner events with vegetables from the garden
- Children's story time in the garden
- Harvest Festival
- Fundraising events for new gardens and supplies



Things to consider- Logistics

- Individual versus communal plots
 - In ground – soil testing, amendments, tilling
 - Raised bed – initial construction and soil+compost mix
- Size of plots
- Cost of plot rental
- Handling of money
- Water - supply, maintenance, payment
- Compost – supply, composting on site, maintenance
- Materials
- Garden Tools
- Seeds and plants

Things to consider- Guidelines

- Safety
- Trellising and other supports
- Weeding of individual areas
- Aesthetics and appearance of garden
- Maintenance of common areas
- Tilling, or no tilling
- Seeds and plants
- Perennial crops or only annuals
- Chemical usage
- Organic practices
- Watering techniques – overhead, drip, hand watering, etc
- Mulches and mulch materials
- Other? Please review other garden guidelines provided
- Keep it simple!

Community Garden Websites

- UW-Extension Community Gardens – Racine
 - Facebook – Racine Community Gardens
- RUGN Gardens – Racine
 - Facebook – Racine Urban Garden Network
 - <http://www.rugn.org>
- Troy Gardens – Madison
 - <http://www.communitygroundworks.org/who-we-are/brief-history>
- UW-Extension Community Gardens – Milwaukee
 - <http://milwaukee.uwex.edu/agriculture/garden-rental/>

UW-Extension Resources

- People + Plants Community Garden publications and videos
 - <http://fyi.uwex.edu/peopleplants>
- UW-Extension Publications on Gardening
 - <http://learningstore.uwex.edu>
- Wisconsin Horticulture Website
 - <http://hort.uwex.edu>