CUA Community Garden
CREATE. INSPIRE. LEAD.

CUA Green Club, Office of Facilities, Campus Ministry
Starting the Garden

“A garden is a great way to bring us back, to re-center us and to reconnect us with the creation and our divine Creator.”

–Renewal

Garden Mission:

The CUA Community Garden will build community among Catholic University faculty, staff, and students and create a place where all can come together and enjoy the “fruits of their labor”.

Tuesday, November 13, 2012
The CUA Community Garden is a program that brings together all aspects of Catholic University. The students, faculty, and staff of CUA will help to construct, plant, and maintain the garden in order to donate all of the proceeds to local food banks. The garden fosters education, service, and community. Through the garden we will create, inspire others, and lead our community to do great things.
Overview

- The garden will be located by Curley Hall
- All produce will be donated to a local food pantry
- Individuals, clubs, dorms, classes etc are welcome to “sponsor” a raised bed by promising to have an active role in the maintenance
- Education will be offered during every step of the process including: construction, planting, maintenance, and seminars

Tuesday, November 13, 2012
The CUA Green Club approached the Office of Facilities, Maintenance and Operations with the idea of a Community Garden in May of 2012.

Through the help of MANY experts and dedicated volunteers ranging from FMO, Campus Ministry, CUA Office of Campus Activities, and Casey Trees, the CUA Community Garden has become a reality!
Objectives

- To engage as much of the CUA community as possible
- Donate produce to local food pantries
- Use the garden as a place to bring people together
- The garden should primarily be maintained by the community with the help of experts and FMO
- Faculty and staff should also feel welcomed to be involved along with the students!
The garden will be located between Curley Hall and Curley Court (trailers)
Construction

Phase 1:
- Amish storage shed (purchased)
- 8 vegetable raised beds
- butterfly garden

Phase 2:
- irrigation system
- compost
- patio classroom
Raised Bed Construction

Material Plan

4x4x8 Lumber

Styrofoam Insulation

2x4x8 Lumber

24'
Raised Bed Construction

FRAMING DIAGRAM
2” x 4” LUMBER
The typical “growing season” does not correspond to a college semester. The height of the growing season occurs during the summer when most students are not on campus.

Therefore, we will be planting root plants in the early spring (Feb) in order to have growth during the colder spring months, and have a produce ready to donate to the local food pantries in late spring.
Typical Root Plants include:

- onions
- potatoes
- carrots
- radishes
- beets
“Can I plant my own plants?”

For now, all of the plants will be grown with the intention to donate the produce to the local food pantries.

We will be planting hardy vegetables and this year do not have the capacity for groups or individuals to plant their own crop.

But maybe in the coming years, this could be a possibility!
FMO has experts that are very well versed in the maintenance of gardens. Our role as community members will be to provide the hands that are needed for the work. FMO will provide the expertise when it comes to techniques in:

- watering
- soil care
- pruning
- pests (good vs bad natural predators)
- fertilizers
Education

- Experts will be on hand during every step to help with the education on gardening.
- Seminars will also be conducted between the planting and the harvesting to help educate the community on the many aspects that make a garden successful.

  Possible Speakers: FMO experts, Casey Trees specialists, CUA professors
How to Measure Success

- A small crop of plants that can be donated to the local community
- The interaction of faculty, staff, and students through their involvement in the garden
- The coming together of different areas of our community
- A place on campus for community members to visit and be proud of their hard work
Next Step

Now that the planning stage is complete, what happens next?

- The construction of the raised beds will occur in early December with the help of FMO and many volunteers from the community.

- FMO will provide the expertise, there will be no prior experience necessary to help build!

- The wood will be precut and ready for construction by the community on site.
How can you help??

The garden is an ongoing project and we need lots of help to keep it going! We need volunteers to help in many ways ranging from construction of the raised beds, to planting, and especially in the maintenance of the garden! Students, faculty, and staff can help in any way they would like. No need to just pick one! Why not plant a few vegetables and then come back to see how they are growing!?
Clubs, classes, offices, dorms etc. are invited to help “sponsor” a raised bed.

This includes involvement in the construction of the bed, planting in the early spring next semester, a promise to help with the maintenance throughout the growing season, and finally help with the harvest in late spring.
"Promise to help with maintenance"??

By promising to help with the maintenance of a raised bed, there is a commitment to helping the garden flourish under the instruction of FMO.

This depends on many factors (ex: weather) but it is likely that there will be a weekly “work day” that a member of the club/office/class will have to come and tend to the raised bed.
Everyone is welcome to help with the garden no matter if they are in a sponsoring club or not! Please feel free to sign up for any part of the project!

If you would like to commit to a raised bed, we would love to have your help!

This is a CUA Community Garden so everyone is more than welcome!
Please feel free to sign up for more than one aspect of the garden program!

This is a large program and we need all hands on deck to help!
Next Event

- The next event will be in DECEMBER when we return from Thanksgiving break.
- At this event, we will be constructing the raised beds on site!
- The wood will be prepared for us so no prior experience is needed to help. This is part of the education that the mission of the garden fosters!
- Please keep an eye out for an email/advertising regarding the official date and time.
Thank you very much for coming!! There has been a lot of work already to help this garden grow and we have only just begun!

We are so excited to have you here and can’t wait to start construction!!

Thank you for you for sharing in our excitement for Catholic University’s Community Garden!
Thank you!