

# 25 Years Of Community Gardening

Community GardensCommunity Gardening as Social ActionFrom the Ground UpCity BountifulGuide to Community GardeningThe Struggle for EdenHow Community Gardens WorkCitizens of the GardenThe Community Gardening HandbookUrban Garden USA. Community Gardening as a Tool of City PlanningThe Social Ownership of Community GardensCultivating NeighborhoodResearch Information Needs and Practices of Community Gardening & Greening PractitionersCommunity Gardening in an Unlikely CityCommunity GardeningGrowing CommunityGrowing HealthPrivate Gardens in Public Spaces - Community GardeningCommunity Gardening Organizations' Relationship to the Public Planning FunctionA Trip to the Community Garden Susan Burns Chong Claire Nettle Efrat Eizenberg Laura J. Lawson Vincent Bronson Malve von Hassell Louise Spilsbury Hui Tian Ben Raskin Theresa Löwenstein Jill Eshelman Bryan K. Langlands Amanda Maria Edmonds Tyler Schafer Ben Raskin Claire Nettle Brittany Minnick Hanson Robert John Kirkby Geoffrey J. Herbach Melissa Raé Shofner

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in community gardens people of all ages work together to improve their communities turning abandoned lots and other plots of land into vibrant green spaces community gardens beautify neighborhoods provide residents with nutritious food and flowers and serve as places to meet and socialize this exciting title gives teens the information they need to get a gardening project off the ground from holding the first community meetings to harvesting what they grow in accessible text the author provides useful advice on designing the garden choosing appropriate plants and preparing the soil as well as on planting and tending the garden photos will inspire readers and a wealth of resources is provided for further support

there has been a resurgence of community gardening over the past decade with a wide range of actors seeking to get involved from health agencies aiming to increase fruit and vegetable consumption to radical social movements searching for symbols of non capitalist ways of relating and occupying space community gardens have become a focal point for local activism in which people are working to contribute to food security question the erosion of public space conserve and improve urban environments develop technologies of sustainable food production foster community engagement and create neighbourhood solidarity drawing on in depth case studies and social movement theory claire nettle provides a new empirical and theoretical understanding of community gardening as a site of collective social action this provides not only a more nuanced and complete understanding of community gardening but also highlights its potential challenges to notions of activism community democracy and culture

little known and hidden between skyscrapers and wide avenues some 650 community gardens dot new york city set within one of the densest and most expensive real estate markets these gardens are attended by some of the least advantaged residents of the city urban residents use these spaces for horticulture recreation social gatherings and artistic and cultural events they manage the gardens collectively and with relative independence from top down control despite continuous threats from market forces the gardens have been able to thrive as significant community spaces since the 1970s this book shows how in the process of attempting to protect these highly contested spaces residents developed as community leaders and urban activists taking an interdisciplinary approach to follow the political development of urban residents the book examines how everyday spatial practices social interactions the production of alternative urban space and the generation of new urban knowledge render community gardeners into important social actors in the urban scene the book argues that with

this process of production of space a new type of organic resident evolves these urbanites constantly engage with their urban environment find ways to make the city more supportive for their collective needs and produce the city in their own image community gardeners as organic residents claim their right to the city act to materialize their vision of the city and utilize the special potential of the locale to constitute themselves as powerful social actors on the urban scene

the social history of american cities would not be complete without a full account of the rise of community open spaces lawson does exactly this by providing a compelling and poetic account of the history and making of urban gardens combining solid scholarship with engaging images of the gardens and stories of their makers this book sheds new light on the value of urban open space more important it explains why community gardens need to stand alongside city parks as permanent open spaces essential reading for community developers and landscape architects as well as anyone who ventures outside enthusiasm and shovel in hand to improve their local environment mark francis author of urban open space and village homes the definitive history of the past hundred years of america s experience with community gardens a labor of love by a garden activist the book appears at a most appropriate time today our city dwellers and suburbanites are retreating onto carpets of passive open space tended by homeowner associations and lawn care outfits lawson thoughtfully analyzes the weaknesses of community gardens when used as a response to social crises and by contrast investigates community gardens as an alternative to today s managed care of open space her history clearly presents a way of community living that we can elect if we choose her wisdom sam bass warner jr author of to dwell is to garden an important book about how the urban gardening movement is transforming our landscape and reconnecting us to the land alice waters owner chez panisse

according to marin master gardeners a community garden is any piece of land gardened by a group of people utilizing either individual or shared plots on private or public land community gardens provide fresh products and plants as well as contributing to a sense of community and connection to the environment and an opportunity for satisfying labor and neighborhood improvement they are publicly functioning in terms of ownership access and management as well as typically owned in trust by local governments or not for profit associations community gardens vary widely throughout the world in north america community gardens range from familiar victory garden areas where people grow small plots of vegetables to large greening projects to preserve natural areas to tiny street beautification planters on urban street corners some grow only flowers others

are nurtured communally and their bounty shared there are even non profits in many major cities that offer assistance to low income families children groups and community organizations by helping them develop and grow their own gardens in the uk and the rest of europe closely related allotment gardens can have dozens of plots each measuring hundreds of square meters and rented by the same family for generations in the developing world commonly held land for small gardens is a familiar part of the landscape even in urban areas where they may function as market gardens they also practice crop rotations with versatile plants such as peanuts tomatoes and much more community gardens are often used in urban neighborhoods to alleviate the food desert effect food accessibility described in urban areas refers to residents who have limited access to fresh produce such as fruits and vegetables food deserts often serve lower income neighborhoods usually in which residents are forced to rely on unhealthy food options such as expensive processed foods from convenience stores gas stations and fast food restaurants community gardens provide accessibility for fresh food to be in closer proximity located in local neighborhoods community gardens can help expand the realm for ensuring residents access to healthy and affordable food in a community community gardens may help alleviate one effect of climate change which is expected to cause a global decline in agricultural output making fresh produce increasingly unaffordable community gardens are also an increasingly popular method of changing the built environment in order to promote health and wellness in the face of urbanization the built environment has a wide range of positive and negative effects on the people who work live and play in a given area including a person s chance of developing obesity community gardens encourage an urban community s food security allowing citizens to grow their own food or for others to donate what they have grown advocates say locally grown food decreases a community s reliance on fossil fuels for transport of food from large agricultural areas and reduces a society s overall use of fossil fuels to drive in agricultural machinery a 2012 op ed by community garden advocate les kishler examines how community gardening can reinforce the so called positive ideas and activities of the occupy movement community gardens improve users health through increased fresh vegetable consumption and providing a venue for exercise a fundamental part of good health is a diet rich in fresh fruits vegetables and other plant based foods community gardens provide access to such foods for the communities in which they are located community gardens are especially important in communities with large concentrations of low socioeconomic populations as a lack fresh fruit and vegetable availability plagues these communities at disproportionate rates

writing at a time when the further destruction of community gardens had been legally forbidden but the city council was voting to continue replacing them with development hassell behavioral sciences suffolk county community college new york presents one perspective on the history and current status of urban community gardens on the lower east side of new york city he concentrates on the last two decades of the 20th century annotation copyrighted by book news inc portland or

some cities offer their residents lots of cool restaurants arts activities and business opportunities but few green spaces poorer areas may have empty lots or abandoned buildings and no nearby parks community gardens are a great idea for either of these scenarios and so many more through inspiring descriptions of the benefits of community gardens including their positive ecological impact readers will run to the nearest plot of land to start a garden from the science of composting and organic farming to health topics like fitness and healthy eating the motivating content will introduce readers to the fun of community gardens which can bring communities together help the environment and provide a good use for unused lots bright colorful photographs and descriptive sidebars and fact boxes will draw readers in even more that is if they haven t already started planting their garden

the present research addresses the subjectivity of the community gardening experience in the case of a montreal borough community gardens have regained popularity worldwide how to interpret this phenomenon from the perspective of participants and how do they experience community gardening and make sense of their social practices to answer these questions this study takes a qualitative approach that combines observations and in depth interviews the findings drawn from this study are based mainly on 30 semi structured interviews participants from diverse social strata were recruited guided by grounded theory this research stresses the specific contexts under which community gardeners generate meanings from their community gardening experience examined from three dimensions economic social and cultural this study reveals that meanings and significance are context sensitive personalized and fluid the emotional dimension emerges as of particular importance community gardening is viewed as a transformative practice converging with diverse forms of collective action that allows citizen gardeners to address everyday life challenges whether financial social cultural or environmental through gardening participants claim that they are reconnecting with themselves with other people and with nature this research confirms that with respect to the subjective experience of gardening participants generally claim positive outcomes

seminar paper from the year 2014 in the subject landscape management grade 1 3 course city planning language english abstract in modern times society in most u s cities changed to bedroom communities where people stay home watch television and forget how to live in the cultural urban or even village sense at the same time however issues such as global warming and sustainability gained attention which led to the re emergence of a movement within the city community gardening the question to be answered is if community gardens urban gardens cg are planned as a means to other objectives or an end in itself if it is a means to other ends the cg is only beneficial until the other aim is achieved if not the gardens serve a greater use than only to overcome crisis this in turn would be an indicator that cg should be more recognized as a city planning tool instead of decrease in times of peace and wealth in order to find out what role cg play in today s urban planning and how it can contribute to improve urban conditions i first have to illuminate the current problems in today s cities after having a general overview on the present urban conditions i than focus on the historical and current development of cg in general and in particular in the united states u s later i take a closer look on the general objectives behind the emergence of urban garden movements and the benefits that they contained in the past and present looking at recent prime examples of urban gardens in berlin and san diego will shed light on the goals behind and particular the benefits cg have on today s urban environments communities and its residents in the end i ll give some recommendations on how cg should be implemented in the field of city planning to improve the described urban conditions

this study analyzes the roles and contradictions embedded within the establishment and maintenance of community gardens within urban communities i apply henri lefebvre s framework of the social production of space to evaluate the capacity for urban residents to shape their neighborhoods in the context of neoliberal development practices these realities shape the experiences of gardeners in a multitude of ways including the extent to which they have access to amenities political resources and the spaces themselves throughout this study utilizing data from a combination of 25 in depth interviews and extensive participant observation in 45 community gardens across the city of boston and the surrounding area i demonstrate how narratives surrounding community gardens have shifted throughout the twentieth and twenty first century and have adapted to dominant cultural rhetoric in order to justify their continued existence throughout the history of the community gardening movement justifications for the spaces have included environmental justice food access and community resilience my findings

demonstrate that due to neoliberal development pressures and the imperatives of the growth machine community gardens in boston are protected primarily through the non profit sector which has lead to numerous inequalities in the community gardening experience low income people racial and ethnic minorities and immigrant populations particularly in gentrifying neighborhoods face barriers in accessing the spaces despite the fact that they are often the most likely to need the spaces for the purpose of improving their access to fresh and healthy food in disadvantaged communities community gardens are often part of an oppositional strategy and the right to the city movement which seeks to counter gentrification in these instances community gardens serve not only as spaces for expression of environmental and food justices but they also allow for the demonstrations of ownership in the form of art staging grounds for political dissent and transportation advocacy and reclamation of space in communities with histories of violent crime this study demonstrates that community gardens have a multiplicity of meanings for their stakeholders and contributes to our understanding of how community gardens relate to the broader urban social fabric

why have so many churches started community gardens over the past decade are they simply a fad or do community gardens somehow connect more deeply with the mission of the churches that launch them what can churches and faith based institutions interested in starting community gardens learn from those that have started their own gardens over the past decade and what would it mean for a church to put christ in the center of its community gardening efforts in order to discern best practices for launching christ centered community gardens moving forward cultivating neighborhood begins with a brief survey of the history of community gardens in the united states and builds a constructive theological framework for community gardening grounded in the practice of christian hospitality it continues with two case studies of church sponsored community gardens and one case study of a community garden sponsored by a christian college all three of which were created between 2003 and 2011 the results of this research conclude with a new definition of christ centered community gardening and an outline of fifteen best practices for launching a christ centered community garden

community gardening is as much about community as it is gardening and compared to growing plants cultivating community is far more difficult in community gardening in an unlikely city the struggle to grow together in las vegas schafer documents his time as a member of a fledgling las vegas community garden and the process through which a rotating group of gardeners try

to forge community he demonstrates the ways in which choices gardeners make about what goals to pursue or who belongs or what story to tell about their collective efforts influence how they and others experience and interpret the garden the garden culture that emerges over time shapes how or whether community is practiced at the garden and has important consequences for the gardeners abilities to connect with the low income black and latinx community in which it is located schafer s analysis provides important insights about urban culture the environment and food justice in the american southwest and a sober look into the often messy process and practice of community

nur mit guter planung entstehen grüne oasen als orte der begegnung gemeinsam ein stück brachliegendes land in einen blühenden garten verwandeln gemüse und früchte für den eigenen bedarf anbauen und die grüne oase zu einem ort der begegnung machen wo freundschaften entstehen und auch mal eine party stattfinden kann das ist die kernidee des community gardening einen gemeinschaftsgarten aufzubauen einzurichten und zu pflegen macht unglaublich spass stellt aber auch hohe anforderungen an alle beteiligten wie kann man die wünsche und vorstellungen aller mitwirkenden einbeziehen und wie stellt man sicher dass auch das notwendige gärtnerische know how einfließt wie findet man eine geeignete parzelle für den gemeinschaftsgarten und welche rechtlichen aspekte sind zu bedenken mit antworten auf diese und viele weitere fragen ist community gardening ein praxisorientierter leitfaden der über die stolpersteine beim organisieren und aufbauen eines gemeinschaftsgartens hinweghilft

if you re interested in starting a community garden this book is an essential guide author claire nettle offers practical tips on everything from finding land to organizing volunteers as well as insights into the social and environmental benefits of community gardening this work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it this work is in the public domain in the united states of america and possibly other nations within the united states you may freely copy and distribute this work as no entity individual or corporate has a copyright on the body of the work scholars believe and we concur that this work is important enough to be preserved reproduced and made generally available to the public we appreciate your support of the preservation process and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant

recently research on community gardens and their benefits to health and community has become very popular however this influx of research has failed to investigate challenges to successful community gardening some articles examine issues between community gardeners and the land owners but other than these conflicts community garden challenges like lack of participation and quality leadership have not been discussed in the literature draper and freedman 2010 to allow future gardens to be as successful as possible it is important to identify potential obstacles additionally it is just as important to continue to examine possible benefits for example physical activity and health benefits of community gardening and the breadth of community issues possibly addressed by community gardeners continuing to research on community will allow for more successful gardens and encourage funding for these programs this study examines how food insecurity health and community cohesion issues can be affected by community gardens in central florida it also investigates challenges community gardens often face to do this i conducted structured interviews with community gardeners and semi structured interviews with community garden leaders at several gardens throughout orange county florida the results show that community gardens have several benefits including increased consumption of fresh produce improved physical activity mental health and community cohesion however gardens are not without difficulties about a third of the gardeners and the majority of the leaders said that lack of participation was a challenge they faced

growing food in a community garden is a great idea and lots of communities have them when the fruits and vegetables are ready everyone gets to take some home this book will teach young readers about working with their neighbors to grow a garden reluctant readers will be drawn in by the accessible text full color photographs on each page help children connect with what they're reading readers will be eager to pick up this book and learn about community gardens

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