



NEWSLETTER

Next Public Meeting – June 18th at 5PM

May/June 2013

Spring 2013 Building Day Success!

This past April 20th was this year's Community Garden Building and Beautification Day. There was a lot accomplished this year! The ICG team, along with IUP Students from Into the Streets, Indiana Area School's Key Club, and countless individuals all helped build and fill 10 new beds in the garden. We have doubled in size and are thrilled to report that all individual plots have been rented for this year. There were many other projects going on besides bed building. Gerald ("G") Smith planned and helped execute the installation of a large rain barrel system! The garden now has four rain barrels that will be utilized to water the garden. An educational sign will be posted soon by the new rain barrel system to both guide the use of how to use this water and educate the community on the benefits of rain water for gardening. We also were able to plant 14 apple trees thanks to Bob Pollock and help from volunteers.

One of the bigger projects, which is still being worked on, are the series of screens that will be masking the gas well, which was designed by Adam Criscuola and built by Bill Heberer. Many individuals have been helping this project along. There were a number of individuals who helped Bill on Building Day dig post holes and install the bottoms of the screens, which are made up of lattice. The African American Cultural Center helped varnish the post and lattice work. Marine-grade fabric will be lining the top, like sails, and are in the process of being sewn by Gail Auth. We want to thank Royal Oil & Gas for their donations to the Indiana Community Garden, without which much of these projects wouldn't have been possible.

When visiting the garden, take notice of our three compost bins. Thanks to Charlie Venturella, we have expanded the bins from one to three to help in one of our missions which is Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. Educational signs will be posted by the composting bins so the community as well as plot owners understand how the bins work and more importantly for plot owners, utilize the compost for their own gardens.

Local Kids Getting Involved in the Garden!

This year, many different groups have showed interest in bringing students and children to the garden to help educate them on planting and growing food. A total of 65 kindergarten and first grade students from Horace Mann Elementary School came to the garden a couple of times to plant seeds and plants in the community beds and make labels to help identify what they planted. They got to learn about different garden bugs, how and why to compost, and most importantly (for little children), put earth worms into the community beds! Other groups like Graystone Church's Seeds of Faith Christian Academy students came to learn about all of the wonders of gardening. We hope to see more student groups come to the garden for education and fun! (Photos on page 2)

2013 Food Demonstrations Schedule

Food demonstrations will be starting June 1st with Nicole Dann-Payne and Jodie Seybold, both Registered Dietitians and members of the ICG Team. This season they're excited to present their new series of food demos.

- June 1st–Superb Herbs: From pairing herbs with meats to homemade marinades.
- July 13th – Savory Summer Salads: More than just lettuce!
- August 10th – Pepper Power: How to use your mild and hot peppers in cooking.
- September 14th – Waste Not, Want More: Stretching your late summer produce.
- October 12th – Winter Waistlines: Maintaining healthy habits through the winter months.

Each food demonstration will be held in the Indiana Community Garden and begin at 11 AM, running for about one hour. These demonstrations count toward continuing education for Master Gardeners. Look for the attendance sign-up sheet, which is posted on the ICG website for each food demo. Hope to see you there!

June and July Events in the Garden

Aside from monthly food demos, there are a variety of activities going on this season in the garden.

Join the ICG Team and plot owners in Planting Day, June 1st, beginning at 9 AM. We are currently taking plant donations. Contact us at icg15701@gmail.com, to arrange donating these items. Then, stay after you plant for our first food demonstration on Superb Herbs.

This year on July 4th, join members of the ICG Team in the garden for a picnic fundraiser. There will be food, music and fun. ICG t-shirts, cloth bags, and aprons will be available for purchase as well. All proceeds go to the Indiana Community Garden. There will be team members to give garden tours. So, bring your family and friends. Stay for the Mack Park Fireworks which begin at sundown. You'll have the best view in Indiana at the Garden!

On July 27th, Friends of the Park is hosting Taste and Tour of the Indiana Community Garden, from 10 AM to Noon. There will be many short education sessions for families of all ages, food, music, and more!

Keep up-to-date by going to our website, indianacommunitygardens.org. There you will find photos, information, and our events calendar. We hope to be holding some Yoga sessions, a few more picnics, and other events this season.

