

COMMUNITY GARDENS = HEALTHY EATING, EDUCATION, AND INTERACTIVE LEARNING

JIM McVEY
CALVERT COUNTY MASTER GARDENER





Equal Access Programs

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Saint Michaels Community Garden



Herb Garden at Marriott Resort



Resort Community Garden for Herbs.



Community Garden in Vancouver Canada



Fairbanks, Alaska Community Garden





North Beach Chesapeake Bounty Garden

Saint Mary's City Demo Garden.



Rooftop Garden at American University



Greenhouse atop American University Bldg.





Community Garden

*produce donated
to area food banks*



A co-operative project of the
Calvert County Master Gardeners
and Annmarie Garden





**Completed raised
beds at Annmarie**

Annmarie Garden with Summer Camp Kids



After the Kids Painted the Boxes



Children's Classes at Annmarie





**Kids do the
Garden
Maintenance**

Organizing Annmarie Community Kids Garden

- Calvert Master Gardener Team developed ideas
- Team searched for possible sites
- Met with County UM Extension and Food Security officials in County
- We have support from Annmarie Management and summer children's camp provides educational component
- Site has full sun, water, and public visibility
- Close to SMILE food pantry

How We Operate

- Calvert Master Gardener volunteers
- Master Gardeners budget funds for seed, fertilizer, tools
- Our Management Team rotates leadership positions
- We rotate harvesting and delivering produce to the food pantry
- We all participate in educating the kids and public about land stewardship and good gardening practices
- We chose raised beds for the garden
- We keep records of production and distribution



DOUBLE OAK FARM

American Chestnut Land Trust

R. T. West
Garden Manager





How Do We Start?

Establish a Committee

- Find your "Champion"
- Primary Organizer and Secondary Organizer
- Grant Writer
- Agricultural Expert
- (Are there any of you in our audience?)



What Type of Garden

- **Community**
- **Communal**
- **Communal Food Pantry**
- **Educational**
- **Demonstration Garden**

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Rules and By-Laws

- **Establish Criteria for Joining**
- **Equal Opportunity - Diversity is great**
- **Mandatory Training**
- **Housekeeping**
- **Chemicals**
- **Controlling invasives**

An aerial photograph of a community garden site. The garden is a large, roughly rectangular area with several raised beds. Many people are seen working in the beds, some kneeling and some standing. The garden is surrounded by a sidewalk and a grassy area. In the background, there are trees, a red truck, and a building. The overall scene is one of active community gardening.

Pick a Site

- Who owns the property
- Get an environmental survey.
- Nice, level, accessible property with water
- Take soil samples
- Improve the Soil. Healthy Soil = Healthy Food



Budget

- Membership fee
- Startup grants
- Fencing
- Water
- Raised Beds

Assistance

- **University of Maryland Extension**
- **Master Gardeners**
- **Visit some Community/Communal/Education/**

Demonstration gardens:

Annmarie Community Kids Garden

Double Oak Farm – American Chestnut Land Trust

Chesapeake Ranch Estates

Frederick Post Community Gardens