

# Building Community

from the

## ROOTS Up

Community Gardening Programs

John Garlisch

Bernalillo County Extension Agent  
NMSU Cooperative Extension Service

# What is a Community Garden

**“Any piece of land gardened by a group of people.”**

*- American Community  
Garden Association (ACGA)*

# WHY?

- To meet community needs
  - Land access
  - Community Beautification
  - Food Access/Hunger
  - Market Gardens
  - Fun - Socialize
  - Education

# Types of Community Gardens

- Neighborhood and/or community gardens
- Educational and teaching opportunities
  - School gardens
  - Job training sites
- Gardens supporting families, immigrants, food banks or shelters
- Demonstration and display gardens
- Therapy gardens

# Getting Started

- IDEA – Form a group
- Site Identification
- Contracts and Agreement
- Source Funding
- Design and Plan
- Build
- GROW!



































































# Put the “Community” in your Community Garden!

- Encourage each other to maintain your plots  
*(visual areas that are maintained and kept will help to gain community support)*
- Encourage individual involvement
- Local organization involvement  
*(4-H, Master Gardeners, Lions, Kiwanis, Rotary, faith communities, etc...)*
- Include non-typical or lesser asked groups

# CHALLENGES

- Growing season, weather, water
- Vandalism
- Insects, Pests, Disease, Weeds
- Neglect
- Funding
- Helpful yet uninformed folks



# Credits

- Pictures taken by John Garlich, Bernalillo County Extension
- Walser, Ron: Starting a Community Vegetable Garden Pub H-246  
[http://aces.nmsu.edu/pubs/\\_h/H-246.pdf](http://aces.nmsu.edu/pubs/_h/H-246.pdf)
- American Community Gardening Association: Starting a Community Garden <http://communitygarden.org/learn/starting-a-community-garden.php>
- Gruber, Charlene and Kelsey Sparks: Plot Style Community Gardening in Minnesota, A preparation guide for new community gardeners.  
Powerpoint.  
*[blog.lib.umn.edu/efans/mgdirector/CommunityGardenPresentation.ppt](http://blog.lib.umn.edu/efans/mgdirector/CommunityGardenPresentation.ppt)*

# THANK YOU

- John Garlisch
- Bernalillo County Extension Office
- 1510 Menaul Blvd NW
- Albuquerque, NM 87107
- Email: [garlisch@nmsu.edu](mailto:garlisch@nmsu.edu)
- Ph: 505-243-1386