

Local Dirt

July 2, 2002

The Newsletter of the Berkeley Community Gardening Collaborative

Member Gardens:

Berkeley Alternative High School
Berkeley Youth Alternative's Garden Patch
Ecohouse
The Edible Schoolyard
Karl Linn Com. Garden
Northside Com. Garden
LeConte School Farm & Garden
Malcolm X School Garden
Ohlone Community Garden
Oxford School Garden
People's Park Garden
Peralta Com. Garden
Spiral Gardens
Strong Roots Gardens
U.C. Berkeley Student Garden
Willard Greening Project
Washington School Garden

Affiliates and Supporters:

Alameda Co. Food Bank
Americorps
American Community Gardening Association
Berkeley Ecology Center
CALCorps
Center for Ecoliteracy
City of Berkeley
Occidental Ecology Center
West Berkeley Neighborhood Development Corp

Next Meeting:

Monday: July 8, 2002

6:00 p.m.

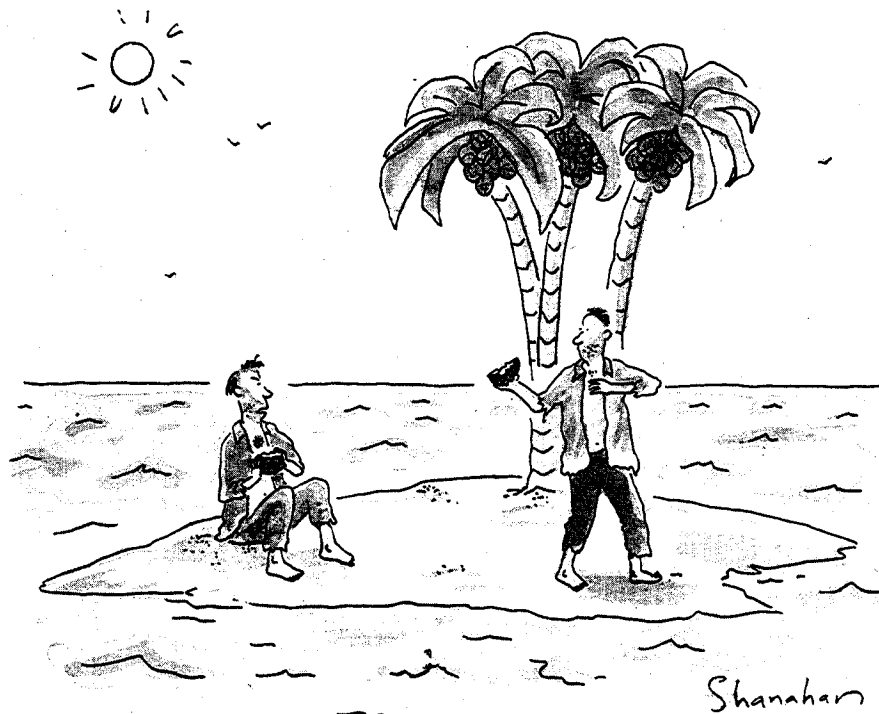
Potluck Supper at the garden of

The Edible Schoolyard
King Middle School
1781 Rose Street
Berkeley

May 9th meeting: We had a small turnout at the Northside Community Garden, but had a lively discussion. We talked about getting more wheelchair access into community gardens, and that the Thousand Oaks School is the first school garden to require wheelchair accessibility. The insurance for our community gardens is renewed yearly (through the city). It is important for community garden coordinators to mail their current plot gardeners names and addresses to Brad Ricards, Parks Dept. – Design, 1947 Center St., Berkeley, CA 94704. We will plan some speakers for future BCGC meetings, i.e. a specialist on butterflies or bees.

The Berkeley Food Policy Council

The Food Policy Council of the city of Berkeley (not to be confused with the school district's Food Policy) is a group of 25 – 30 members who have tried for the last three years to improve and promote healthy food for all it's citizens. We work with the city's Health Department to increase the public's access to growing food, and giving the public better access to healthy food. The Farm Fresh Choice is now an Ecology Center Program that was started a year ago by the Food Policy Council, and is expanding all the time. Joiners to Our Council are welcome (we meet on the second Wednesday of every month, 7:00 pm, at the Ecology Center, at 2530 San Pablo Street, Berkeley), and if you would like more information, please call Kate Clayton at the city's Health Department, 981-5314, or go to [www. Berkeleyfood.org](http://www.Berkeleyfood.org).



"Would it kill you to compost?"

Open Garden Day: Sept. 21, 2002

Sept. 15, 2002

Oakland Museum: Agricultural Food Festival

School Garden News

Many of our school gardens are funded by the matching grants from the California Nutrition Network (CNN). This October 1st the Berkeley Unified School District (BUSD) will receive it's fourth grant, but unfortunately the number of schools will be reduced to only 5 or 6 (District is still trying to get certain schools to qualify). Many of our talented garden and cooking teachers don't know if they will be teaching in the coming year.

The good news is that the District applied for and received a half a million dollar L.E.A.F. grant (Linking Education, Activity, and Food) from the California Department of Education, to "promote a healthy school environment through school food policies, nutrition standards, and learning opportunities that promote health for all children." Since BUSD already has a strong Food Policy (mainly: food that is fresh, organic, and locally grown) the L.E.A.F. grant can concentrate on helping Food Services to implement this policy. The Child Nutrition Advisory Committee encouraged the District to apply for this grant, and will help the Director of Food Services, Karen Candito, and others to achieve healthy food in the District, and promote healthy activities for the students. Congratulations to all those people who helped write the grant!

Revitalized Community Gardens!

Congratulations to the Strong Roots gardens on Sacramento Street for a wonderful work-party day on June 29th! Strong Roots gardeners were joined by Earth Island Institute volunteers to honor David Brower in a day of work and fun at the community gardens on the Woolsey Street corner, and the Harmon Street corner. Many families came to share in the digging and planting, as well as the good food and fun activities for children. The turn out was tremendous, and much was accomplished. Thank you to everybody who made the work-party such a success!

Another World IS Possible!

The
Institute
for Deep
Ecology

Cultural
Conservancy

Global
Exchange

INIYA

New
College

SolCity

Invite you
to
Our 2002
Conference
Gathering



Come!
Network &
exchange
your
stories
about
what's
really
happening
to build
just &
healthy
community
where you
live!

Building Just and Healthy Communities

July 19-21

1st Unitarian Church, 685 14th St., Oakland, CA

FRIDAY, 9 am – 9 pm

Council-Dialogue

Ana Maria Murillo, U'Wa Defense Project;
Anna Marie Carter, urban gardening
advocate; Antonia Juhasz, Int'l Forum on
Globalization; Mexica activist Queuhtemoc
Mendoza; Van Jones, Ella Baker Center for
Human Rights; facilitated by Malaika
Edwards, People's Grocery

Participant-led Dialogues on:

*Food systems – housing – energy &
transportation – community living – local
economy – social justice – education –
health – environmental justice –
soul & spirit – ecological politics*

Performance Art (evening)

Including Youth Art in Action Camp
and musician/song writer Sean
Hutchinson

SATURDAY, 9 am – 9 pm

Opening with rap artist Drew Dillinger

More Participant-led Dialogues on:

*Food systems – housing – energy &
transportation – community living – local
economy – social justice – environmental
justice – health – education – soul & spirit –
ecological politics*

Topic Circles will conclude the day

Open Mic / Drumming (Evening)

West African Village Culture will perform and
lead the drum circle. Bring your song, poem, or
performance piece; drum or dance!

Sliding Scale Fee: \$45 - \$300

SUNDAY, 9 am – 4 pm

Taking Action (9-1)

Take Action at the People's Grocery &
OBUGS gardens; learn how to make
biodiesel (vegetable oil) fuel; create art
from recycled materials.

Closing Talk & Ceremony (2-4)

Closing talk by Joy Moore,
long-time community environmentalist

Closing ceremony with Luisah Teish

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

ON-SITE CHILD CARE

LUNCH AVAILABLE (donation)

More information & registration at www.deep-ecology.org, or email IDE: ide@lgc.org,

Or write to IDE, Box 1050, Occidental, CA 95465; phone: 707-874-2347

From Elk Tracks to the BART tracks!

On Saturday, July 13, at 10:00 am, there will be a press conference celebrating the completion of the 72 feet long mural, along the Ohlone Greenway. This is located on the walkway between Peralta and Gilman Streets. The mural depicts the evolution of the transportation system, and the migration of peoples who settled into the Northbrae neighborhood. Come see for yourself this glorious painting, and the wonderful garden that is growing along the Ohlone Greenway.



Fund-Raiser for the Edible Schoolyard!

The Edible Schoolyard is having
a fund-raiser at Teatro Zinzani on
September 27th. Please call Marsha
Guerrero at 558-1335 for more
information.

TAI CHI CLASS:

There will be a class every
Monday and Wednesday evening,
in the Peralta Community Garden
(Peralta & Hopkins St.). Fee is
\$5.00 per class: 6:00 pm for the
beginner class, 6:30 for the inter-
mediate class. Teacher: Star Fire.
Call Carole for more information:
527-6708.