

# Gardening Gazette

**Free copy**

**Featured Gardener**  
Suzanne O'Dea

The empty lots next to Calvary Lutheran Church in Eureka called for something more than mowing to member Suzanne O'Dea. A year and a half ago, she called Helen L'Annunziata of the Garden Collaborative to ask about starting a community garden on them. The two women went door to door inviting neighbors to help plan and build the garden.

A year and a half after Suzanne and Helen first met, the Garden of Eatin' is in its first planting season and is a huge success. According to Suzanne, "The garden has done what we had hoped: brought neighbors together. Of course, it also gives people a chance to play in the dirt, one of my favorite things."

A lifelong gardener, Suzanne also celebrates the grand pleasure of picking a strawberry off the plant and popping it into her mouth, a pleasure she knows others will soon share based upon the number of strawberry plants in the garden beds!



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## ~ Around the North Coast ~

### Community Gardens: More than Just Food

More and more community gardens are occupying our local landscapes, with 8 new gardens sprouting up since last year alone. Most of these garden projects have been initiated with the intent of improving access to food resources for local residents. While this is most certainly an invaluable goal, it is also important to consider alternative understandings of community gardens and the array of characteristics that surround them.

Community gardens never look the same and most have a diverse membership that spans socio-economic spectrums. It is therefore critical to allow community gardens to exist and to be defined by those that use them. Careful attention must be paid to ensure that the garden spaces do not fall victim to preconceived notions of what they should be or what they should look like. They should not be developed for people, but rather, with the people that will use them.

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In seeking ways to understand what community gardens represent, we caution against a universal definition of these spaces, as this can result in the failure to see the rich and complex texture that gardens can have. A universal representation can also result in a failure to acknowledge the garden members' years of culturally and spiritually transformative land use practices.

Take, for example, the Henderson Community Garden, located in Eureka, CA. As a rich, cultural and ecological space, the Henderson Community Garden is tended almost entirely by Hmong families and has been in existence for over 25 years. The plots are roughly 20' X 20' which allow participants to grow large quantities of food and medicinal plants for their families. But, this community garden also provides an important way for people to connect to their cultural food sources

### Summer 2010 Upcoming Events

#### JULY

- 18th: Open House Dessert Potluck at Unity Garden at 12:30pm, 15th and California Streets in Eureka

- 27th: Strawberry Jam Making Class from 5:30pm to 8:30pm at the Co-op; contact Susan at (707) 822-7150 or send email to susanjam@yahoo.com for more information.

#### AUGUST

- 25th: Blackberry Jam Making Class from 5:30pm to 8:30pm at the Co-op; contact Susan at above contact information.

#### SEPTEMBER

- 19th: Canning Workshop with Joyce Houston and Deborah Giraud (UC Cooperative Extension); contact Deborah at (707) 445-7351 for more information.



## ~ Food Pantries : Humboldt County ~

**Arcata**  
**North Coast Resource Center**  
Contact: Lori O'Brion  
501 9<sup>th</sup> St., 822-5808  
Tue.-Fri. 1-3:00p.m.  
(call after 9:00am for appt.)

**Arcata Seniors** Contact: Christine Tomascheski, 825-2027, 321 Community Park Way, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. 11-11:30a.m. (for seniors)

**Blue Lake**  
**Blue Lake CRC/Mad River Grange**, Contact: Pat Falor  
110 Hatchery Rd. (distr. day)  
111 Greenwood Ave. (non-distr. days), 668-4281 (CRC), 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. 10-1p.m., or anytime at the CRC

**Bridgeville**  
**Bridgeville Community Center**  
Contact: Cathy Stanley, 777-1775, 38717 Kneeland Rd., 3<sup>rd</sup> Fri. 10-3p.m., or as needed

**Eureka**  
**Food for People**, 445-3166,  
307 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Call for an appointment

**Humboldt Senior Resource Center**, Contact: Joel Correia  
443-9747, 1910 California St.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. 8:30-10:00 (for seniors)

**St. Vincent de Paul**  
Contact: Tony Semore, 268-8865,  
528 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. As needed

**Ferndale**  
**Ferndale Community Church**  
Contact: Pastor Sean Pfeifer,  
786-4475, 712 Main St., 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Thurs. 1-3:00p.m.

**Fortuna**  
**St. Joseph's Parish**, Contact:  
Dan Lytle, 725-1216, 2292  
Newberg Rd.. Mon/Wed/Fri  
10-12p.m.  
**Fortuna Community Services**,  
Contact: 725-1166, 2331  
Rohnerville Road, Mon. 6:30-  
8p.m., Tues/Wed 9-11:30a.m.,  
(once every 3 months)

**Garberville**  
**Garberville Presbyterian Church**, Contact: Patti Rose,  
923-3295, 437 Maple Lane, Tue/  
Thu 10:30-12p.m., Wed. 2-4p.m.

**Loleta**  
**Loleta Community Church**  
Contact: Marina Cortez-Hash  
(CRC) and Pastor Tim Huffman  
(Church), 845-0464 (CRC)  
733-5751 (Church). 228 Church  
Street. Thurs. 3-5:00p.m.

**McKinleyville**  
**Grace Good Shepherd Church Pantry**, Contact: Kathy Schmidt,  
839-3726, 1450 Hiller Rd.  
Wed. & Sat. 11-1

**Orick**  
**Orick Elementary School/FRC Pantry**, Contact: Michael Myrick,  
488-2803, 120918 Hwy 101, 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Thurs. 1:30-2:30p.m.

**Rio Dell**  
**Church of Christ** 3rd Thursday 9 -  
1pm. 325 2nd Street  
**Assembly of God Church**  
(Emergency Food), 95 Bellevue  
Ave., Mon-Thurs, 9 am-noon.

**Scotia**  
**Bread for Life** Contact: Don Williams,  
764-3068, Scotia Union  
Church, 402 Church St, Scotia, 3rd  
Thursday, 10a.m. - 11:30a.m.

**Willow Creek**  
**Willow Creek Community Resource Center Pantry**  
Contact: Tamara Jenkinson,  
530-629-314, 38883 Hwy 299  
Mon/Wed/Fri. & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. 10-  
12p.m.

**Trinidad**  
**Trinidad Lion's Club Pantry**  
Contact: Pastor Michael Blaine,  
677-3202, Trinidad  
Town Hall  
409 Trinity Street,  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wed. 11-  
12:30p.m.



### Trinity Co. Food Pantries

**Weaverville**  
**Trinity Congregational Church Food Cupboard:**  
(530) 623-3101, 735 Main St. Parish Hall, Weaverville. Wednesdays 10a.m.- Noon.  
**Human Response Network:** (530) 623-2024,  
111 Mountain View, Weaverville.

**Lewiston**  
**Old Schoolhouse Library:** (530) 778-0111,  
39 Schoolhouse Rd. Sundays, 12:30 -2.m.

**Hayfork**  
**Human Response Network:**  
(530) 628-4565, Hayfork Community Center, Tule  
Creek Rd. Mon/Wed/Fri 9a.m. - 3p.m.

### Del Norte Food Pantries

**Community Assistance Network**,  
(707) 464-9190, 355 Standard Veneer Road  
Crescent City, CA 95531. Distribution  
hours for April 1<sup>st</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>, Monday,  
Wednesday, Friday 10a.m. - 2p.m.

**Rural Human Services**, (707) 464-7441,  
286 M Street, Suite A, Crescent City, 95531  
Distribution locations in Klamath, Crescent  
City and Smith River on various days and  
times. Call for more information.

**Mad River**  
**Southern Trinity Health Services:** (707)  
574-6616 Van Duzen Rd. First Wednesday  
of the month, 9a.m. - 1p.m.

### Food For Thought How To Access Fresh Foods

Food for People is sponsoring a Free Produce Market until October through a generous St. Joseph's Health System grant! This is a great chance to get FREE fresh and nutritious fruits and vegetables! In Eureka, Food for People's Free Produce Market is held at Food for People on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month from 12pm-2pm. In Fortuna, the Free Produce Market is at Fortuna Community Services on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month from 11:30am to 1:30pm. The Free Produce Market is in Southern Humboldt on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month from 10:30am to 12:00pm at the Garberville Presbyterian Church and from 12:30pm to 2pm it is at Redway Baptist Church. Please bring your own bags!

Food stamps are another way to access nutritious fresh foods. The Food Stamp Program is a USDA nutrition assistance program that helps low-income individuals and families buy food. Food stamps can also be used to start a garden, which is an economical way to access fresh produce throughout the season.

Food for People is available to help folks apply for food stamps both at the food bank and at various pantry sites throughout the county. Food for People staff will be at the North Coast Resource Center (formerly the Endeavor) on the third Tuesday of every month, the McKinleyville Pantry (located at the Grace Good Shepherd Church) on the 4th Wednesday, and the St. Joseph's Shelf Pantry in Fortuna on the fourth Friday of every month. For more information about, or to learn about your eligibility for, the Free Produce Market or food stamps please call Ronli at (707) 445-3166 ext 305 or email rlevi@foodforpeople.org.

(This Space Reserved for those businesses that have shown support to the NCCGC or local Community Gardens)

**GARDENING GAZETTE**  
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Copyright © 2010, all rights reserved.  
To submit community garden or other appropriate information for publication, please send to:  
**Chris Lohofener** - Managing Editor  
707-269-2064, Fax 707-445-0884  
lohofener@nrscac.org



## COMMUNITY GARDENS IN HUMBOLDT & DEL NORTE COUNTIES

### HUMBOLDT COUNTY

#### Arcata

##### Arcata Community Garden

Located behind the Arcata Presbyterian Church, 11<sup>th</sup> and J<sup>th</sup> Streets, (707) 822-1321

##### Jacoby Creek School Garden

1617 Old Arcata Road (next to the school), Bayside, Greg King, (707) 498-4900, gking@asis.com

##### Our Garden

Ville de Valle, Valley West, Amber Bishop, amberlita@att.net (preferred) or (707) 822-4145

##### Potawot Community Food Garden

1600 Weeot Way Alison Aldridge, (707) 825-4098, Alison.aldridge@carih.net

#### Blue Lake

##### Blue Lake Community Farmers

Mad River Grange, Hatchery Rd., Shelly Honig (707) 822-6186, shellyhonig@gmail.com, Marina Duncan (707) 668-5005

#### Eureka

##### Alice Birney Head Start

Preschool Garden, 717 South Avenue, Allisen Souza, (707) 442-8977 ext 306

##### Garden of Eatin'

716 South Avenue, Suzanne O'Dea (707) 839-1560, suzodea@mac.com

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##### Henderson Community Garden

800 West Henderson St. Chris Lohofener (707) 269-2064, lohofener@nrsrcaa.org

##### RCAA Demonstration Gardens

6<sup>th</sup> & T<sup>h</sup> Streets, Chris Lohofener (707) 269-2064, lohofener@nrsrcaa.org

##### Unity Garden

California & 15<sup>th</sup> Streets, Linda Atkins (707) 441-4168, latkins@ci.eureka.ca.gov

##### Wabash Street Garden

Wabash & F<sup>th</sup> Streets, Chris Lohofener (707) 269-2064, lohofener@nrsrcaa.org

#### Fortuna

##### Fortuna Community Garden

Christ Lutheran Church, 2132 Smith Lane, Pamela Goodwin (707) 725-2995

##### Fortuna Healthy Garden

Deborah Giraud (707) 445-7351, ddgiraud@ucdavis.edu

#### Hoopa

##### Kin Tah Te Community Garden

Hwy 96, .4 mile N. of Elementary School, behind Youth Center, Rhoby Cook, (530) 625-4222, rhoby@earthtones.com

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#### Manila

##### Manila Teenship Wellness Village Garden

Manila Family Resource Center, Kathryn Riley (707) 444-9771, kriley@rcaa.org

#### McKinleyville

##### Grace Good Shepherd Church Garden

Hiller Road, Stan Schmidt (707) 839-3726,

##### McKinleyville Community Garden

1621 Gwin Rd, in Pierson Park, Gary Rees (707) 839-3214, reesgary@yahoo.com

##### McKinleyville Family Resource Center Garden

McKinleyville Family Resource Center, Hiller Road, Hillarie Beyer (707) 839-0341, mfr0906@sbcglobal.net

#### Orick

##### Orick Community Garden

Orick Elementary School, Orick Community Resource Center (707) 488-2403

#### Rio Dell

##### Rio Dell Community Garden

100 Butcher St., on Rio Dell Baptist Church lands, (707) 764-5239

#### Trinidad

##### Trinidad Community Garden

William Moir w.moir@yahoo.com

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or Marilyn (707) 677-3529

##### Big Lagoon School Garden

269 Big Lagoon Park Rd , Alaina Kelly, (707) 826-1215, alainafrazier@sbcglobal.net

### DEL NORTE COUNTY Crescent City

##### Peterson Park:

D and Sixth Streets, A Community Assistance Network "CAN Grow Community Garden". Angela Gore, (707) 464-9190 or send email to communitygaden@canbless.org

##### Seventh Day Adventist Church:

Corner of Norcrest and Madison, A Community Assistance Network "CAN Grow Community Garden". Angela Gore, (707) 464-9190 or send email to communitygaden@canbless.org

##### First Five Children's Garden:

494 Pacific Avenue (Del Norte Family Resource Center), A Community Assistance Network "CAN Grow Community Garden". Angela Gore, (707) 464-9190 or send email to communitygaden@canbless.org

#### Klamath

##### Klamath Community Garden:

Maple Avenue in Klamath Glenn, Margie Clark, (707) 482-0323

### Farmers Markets

Farmers Markets are in full bloom this time of year, and you can find a wide variety of fruits and vegetables to make a nutritious meal at the dinner table. Some Farmers Markets even accept EBT cards, which can purchase starts and seeds for your garden!

**ARCATA:** Opens April 11th thru November 21st, 9a.m. - 2p.m., on the Arcata Plaza.

**EUREKA:** Opens June thru October; Tuesdays from 10a.m. from 1p.m. in Old Town. Thursdays from 10a.m. to 1p.m. in Henderson Center.

**FERDALE:** Opens May thru October, Saturdays, 10a.m. - 1p.m., at the end of Main St., next to the Victorian Inn.

**FORTUNA:** Opens mid May thru October, Tuesdays from 3p.m. - 6p.m. For more information, contact Holly Krebs at (707) 722-4330

**GARBERVILLE:** Opens May thru October, Fridays, 11a.m. - 3p.m., located at the town square.

**HAYFORK:** Opens May thru October, Tues: 9a.m. - Noon, Fri 4 -7p.m. Located across from the post office on Hwy 3, (530) 628-4750.

**McKINLEYVILLE:** Opens June thru October, Thursdays from 3:30p.m. - 6:30p.m. at the McKinleyville's shopping center, near the totem pole.

**MIRANDA:** Opens May thru October, Tuesdays, 1p.m. - 5p.m., located on the Avenue of the Giants, near post office.

**SHELTER COVE:** Opens May thru October, Tuesdays, 11a.m.—3p.m., located next to the marina.

**WEAVERVILLE:** Opens May thru October, Wed, 4:30 - 7:30p.m. at Main and Mill Streets, (530) 623-6821

## ~ More News ~

### Garden Updates

Local community gardens are a-blooming as rains let up and Summer arrives! Here's the scoop on several gardens in the area:

The **McKinleyville Community Garden** at Pierson Park is in its first planting season. Recently a lovely green gate was added to mark the garden's entrance. Contact Gary at (707) 839-3214 or send email to reesgary@yahoo.com for more information or to rent a plot!

The **Jacoby Creek School Garden** is in its infancy, but the children have been out there weeding, digging, planting and jumping on hay bales whenever the rain has eased off! The 7th graders did an amazing job of weeding the fruit tree circles whilst they observed the birds, worms and various life forms in the garden - some welcome and some not so welcome! Many classes have worked in the garden. Families are offering to tend the garden during the summer, and a "work day" is in the works for every third Sunday. The dates will be posted on-line in the school newsletter. If you have ideas/donations/skills/enthusiasm

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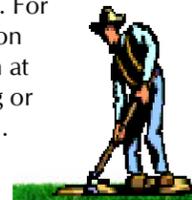
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please contact Sue at sue@mind.ucsd.edu (update submitted by Sue Moore).

The **Orick Community Garden** held a workday last month to kick off the start to their garden. The garden recently received funding to repair its fence. For more information on the garden contact Michael at (707) 488-2403.

The **Kin-tah-te Community Demonstration Garden** will include a vegetable garden, orchard, berries, a senior garden, a native plant garden, and walking trails, according to Project Director Deborah McConnell. They are looking for assistance in designing the permaculture garden. Contact Deborah at (530) 625-4057 or demconnell@hughes.net for more information.

The **Manila Teenship Wellness Village Garden** is in full swing, with snap peas, sunflowers, potatoes, tomatoes, and cucumbers. For more information contact Kathryn at kriley@rcaa.org or (707) 444-9771.



### "Lawns to Gardens" Demonstration Project

The first Lawns to Gardens demonstration project opened on April 3 at the historic Phillips House Museum, located at 7<sup>th</sup> and Union Streets in Arcata. The project demonstrates how a home garden can be turned into a garden to produce food.

Many people who own homes with lawns or garden space would like to grow food but may not be physically able or have the time, and there are people who would love to grow food but lack the land.

The demonstration project was created to show how people can come together to share resources, land, labor, and fresh garden produce.

Big thanks to the many people who donated time and services to this project. They include: Locally Delicious' Lawns to Gardens Project, Arcata's Historic Sites Committee, the 2010 Plan It Green Conference, the North Coast Community Garden Collaborative, GreenWay Partners, Luscious Gardens, Humboldt Foodscapes, Living Earth Landscapes, and The Fickle Hill Fence Company.

If interested in sharing your land or your labor, please send an e-mail to info@locallydelicious.org.

### Fortuna Healthy Garden

In monthly Diabetes Support Groups of the Latino Health Promotion Project at the Mobile Medical Office (MMO) in Fortuna, we have spent years talking about how eating more fresh fruits and vegetables, exercising, and reducing stress are 3 lifestyle changes most vital to living a healthy life with diabetes. The group decided that starting a community garden was a fulfilling and affordable way to make all three of these lifestyle changes.

The garden was born when DanCo Builders donated a beautiful plot of land at an abandoned farmhouse, complete with mature fruit and walnut trees. Twelve families have been meeting regularly the last few months at their new community garden in Fortuna, preparing, building, planting, and working side by side. Armed with knowhow from gardening, farming, and ranching for generations, and the support of many organizations including MMO, the North Coast Community Garden Collaborative, the UC Cooperative Extension Program, Engineers Without Borders, and local farms and nurseries, the garden is blossoming!

Last weekend families planted a multitude of starts that were donated by Blue Jay Nursery, Redwood Roots and Deep Seeded Farms. The garden is now completely planted with strawberries, lettuce, onions, tomatoes, tomatillos, cilantro, cabbage, broccoli, artichokes, melons, among other veggies and herbs.

Seeing families, learn, work, and grow together to improve their health and prevent diabetes in their children is a beautiful thing. Knowing that the community is there to support that effort is pretty special as well!

Article submitted by: Erin Mooney, Mobile Medical Office



### Community Gardens : More than Just Food (continued from Page 1)

through traditional agrarian practices and adapting hybrid cultivation methods suited to the North Coast environment. Traditionally, the women in Hmong families do most of the gardening and it is common to see mothers and grandmothers gardening with their children and grandchildren. At the beginning of the spring seasons, whole families are often seen in the garden spaces together, passing down cultivation techniques and tastes for their unique foods to their children, creating important generational ties and strengthening family and social connections.

The families have also spoken of increased access to fresh foods at a reduced cost. They have talked about the importance of being able to grow things unavailable to them in local markets or stores, including medicinal and spiritual plants. Several gardeners have also mentioned a great joy from being in the garden, with a belief in the health benefits gained from working and tending the land. And others speak of the garden from the sense of being in an important place that represents a little piece of home.

Henderson Community Garden and many gardens throughout our region and the world are tied to social movements that are both place-based and global in scope. These gardens are tied to struggles that work toward maintaining and adapting culture to new places. They are tied to social movements that struggle against capital accumulation and dispossession of land. And they are tied to the right to sustain livelihoods and cultural traditions.

As we continue to embrace the development and sustainability of community gardens in our North Coast region, we must acknowledge the diverse significance of these garden spaces, and share this understanding with our families, friends, neighbors, advocates and political officials. The importance rests not only on the value of food or other garden products, but also on the relationships between people and the right to sustain our diverse livelihoods.