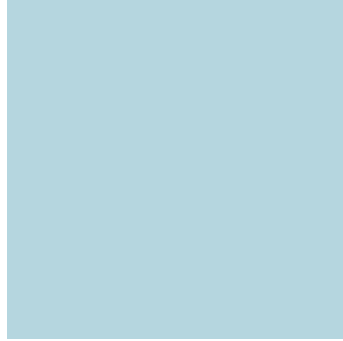


Loving Garland Green



bringing families and communities
together with gardens

Gardens transform people and enrich local economies by creating the demand for new markets and supporting existing markets. In the meantime, people become healthier, wealthier and happier.



Another Urban Garden

One garden at a time

While our support and stewardship for a small Garland Community Garden will be part of our programs and offerings to the community, our activities are primarily focused on showing and encouraging Garland residents to plant their own gardens in their homes. We call this program “Another Urban Garden.”

We administer this program by going to the homes of citizens who have expressed an interest in starting a garden. The Loving Garland Green representative talks with the resident and reviews the space(s) designated for the garden.

Measurements are taken and the size and style of the bed are determined. (Other factors determining the size of the bed include the plants that are desired for the garden.) We discuss all these variables with the resident, and then make a plan of action for creating this garden.

Depending upon the resident, some or all of the cost of the garden may be paid by the resident. In some cases, Loving Garland Green will pay the expenses for building the bed, amending the soil, setting up the water conservation plan and putting in the plants. Most of our installations include building one raised bed, or putting in three large containers.



Urban farming is not a new idea and it creates jobs



The idea of supplemental food production beyond rural farming operations and distant imports is not new and has been used during war times and the Great Depression when food shortage issues arose.

As early as 1893, citizens of a depression-struck Detroit were asked to use any vacant lots to grow vegetables. They were nicknamed Pingree's Potato Patches after the mayor, Hazen S. Pingree who came up with the idea. He intended for these gardens to produce income, food supply, and even boost self-independence during times of hardship.

Pingree solicited the free use of 430 acres of vacant lots for the poor. In 1894, 3,000 families applied to the municipal agricultural committee for a chance to till the soil but because of budgetary limitations, only 945 were assigned to half-acre plots. "Poor people almost fought for a chance to get a piece of ground" reported the mayor.

Cornelius Gardner who directed the project, reported in the fall of 1894 that indigent Detroiters harvested food which was conservatively estimated to have a retail value of \$14,000. In 1896 the cash value raised by the vacant lot farmers rose to \$30,998. *[In 1914 \$31,000 had the same buying power as \$711,763 today.]*

Source: Reform in Detroit – Hazen S. Pingree and Urban Politics
By Melvin G. Holli 1969

Coordinated partnerships with entrepreneurial non-profits and for-profit companies have revitalized environments in the heart of the most distressed urban and metropolitan areas.

Urban Farming™ a 501(c) 3 nonprofit is one example. They worked with Green Living Technologies to put four Edible Walls in Downtown Los Angeles. The walls were sponsored by The Annenberg Foundation, Warner Brothers Pictures and the Los Angeles Beautification Department and were the first Edible Walls in the Urban Farming Global Food Chain Project™. The walls not only help feed the community but cut down on the urban heat index, rainwater runoff and also cut down on the heating and cooling costs of the host buildings the walls are adhered to.

NOTE: Among its future projects, Loving Garland Green plans to create a living wall on one of the buildings located around the square in downtown Garland.

There is almost no pollution and a lot of money to be made from a plant-based economy.

Production costs are fairly low as Mother Nature does most of the work. Consider that all some of us at Loving Garland Green did was to pick up 200 pounds of pecans and sell them for over \$1,000. We didn't have to manufacture anything.



Economics

Of a local plant-based economy

Our main job at Loving Garland Green is to get people excited about growing their own urban garden and to encourage them in learning together how to do it more and better. When people grow edible plants, they help to strengthen and build the local economy; increase the overall health and quality of life for their community; and create jobs.

People growing gardens create all kinds of market needs: for seeds; garden tools; soil; training; water conservation devices (such as rain barrels, gutters, reservoirs, ollas); garden containers; and more.

Even more directly, a focus on edibles such as vegetables and fruits can directly result in the creation of small local businesses to meet the market demands of local urban farmers. One example might be the creation of greenhouses from recycled windows. Another example might be a pottery factory that manufactures ollas. Even a few local seed companies might spring up.

More imaginative businesses might include services such as “The Plant Whisperer” who comes to your garden for a fee and talks your plants into growing bigger. More realistically, we might see “Garden Sitters” advertised.



Interested in Loving Garland Green?

It's easy to join! Just attend one of our meetings.

We are a member-direction nonprofit organization.

Our membership and our meetings are open to the public.

Our mission is simple: to increase the number of urban gardens in our community. All of the rest of the good things to follow will take care of themselves.

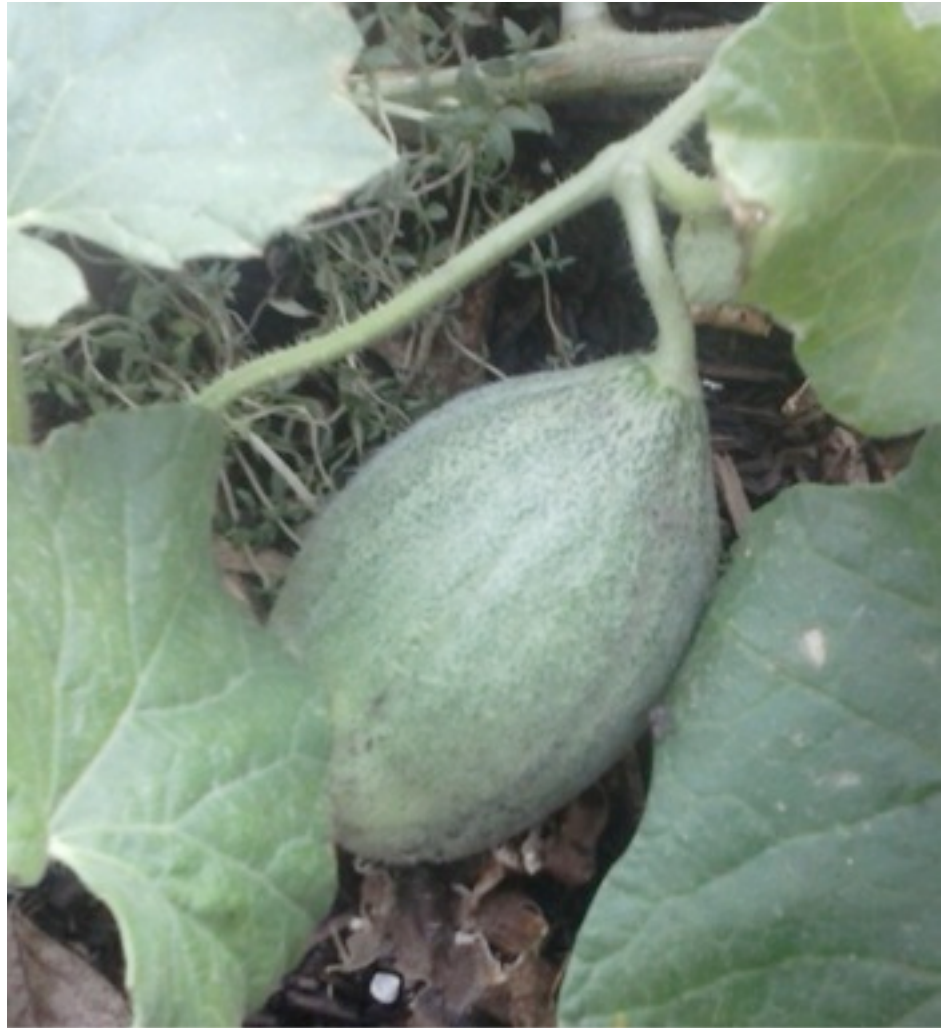
Call us at 972-571-4497

We would love to hear from you!

Our meetings are held on Mondays at 6:30 to 7:30 PM

216 East Kingsbridge Drive

Garland, Texas 75040





Loving Garland Green



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