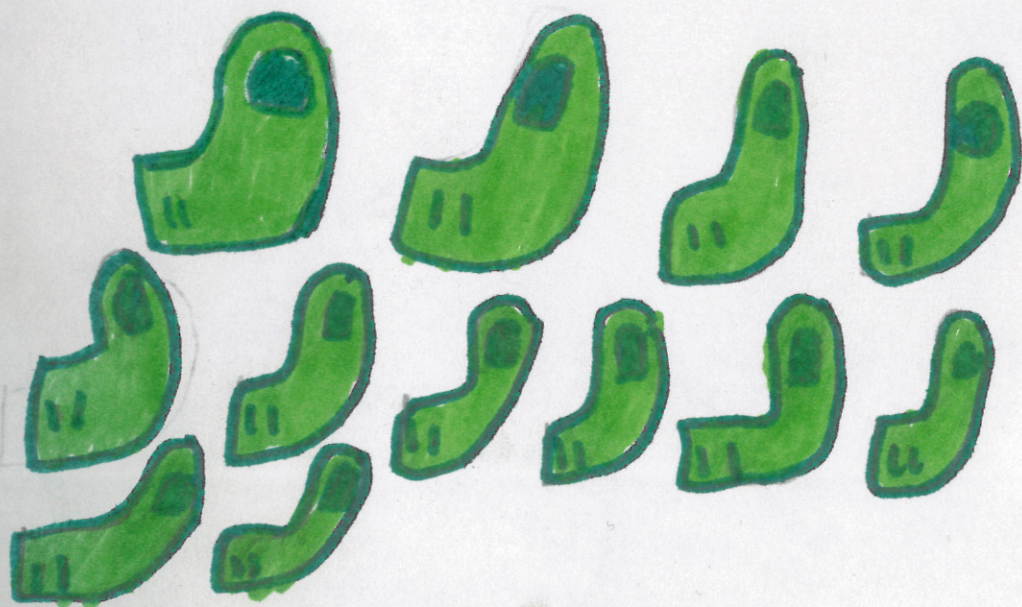


Helping Hands

with

Green

+thumbs



June-October 2009
Olympia Brown UU Church

Encourage a child to have his/her very own garden

Four 4'X4' plots are being reserved for children at the

Eco-Justice Center

7133 Michna Road

Call 681-8527 by Mon. April 20 for more information or to reserve a plot

Children under age 10 are asked to be accompanied by an adult for their weekly garden care.
Plants, Seeds, tools water and mentoring will be provided. Cost \$25 for the Season.

Orientation Meeting for children and adults - Sat. May 16, 2:00-2:30 p.m.

"Yes You Can" Garden 101 - May 3, 2-4 p.m. is a program for families or individuals who want to start their own garden and receive a few pointers on how to begin. Participants will learn about organic gardening, soil, composting, mulch, selecting plants, tools and more. In addition to handouts each family will receive one tomato plant, a tomato cage, organic seeds and pots.
Cost is \$5 per family. Register by Mon. April 20 or cal 681-8527

Background Information

on
the Eco-Justice Center

Because you were wondering...

"Rooted in Hope"
Racine Dominican
Eco-Justice Center

Table of Contents

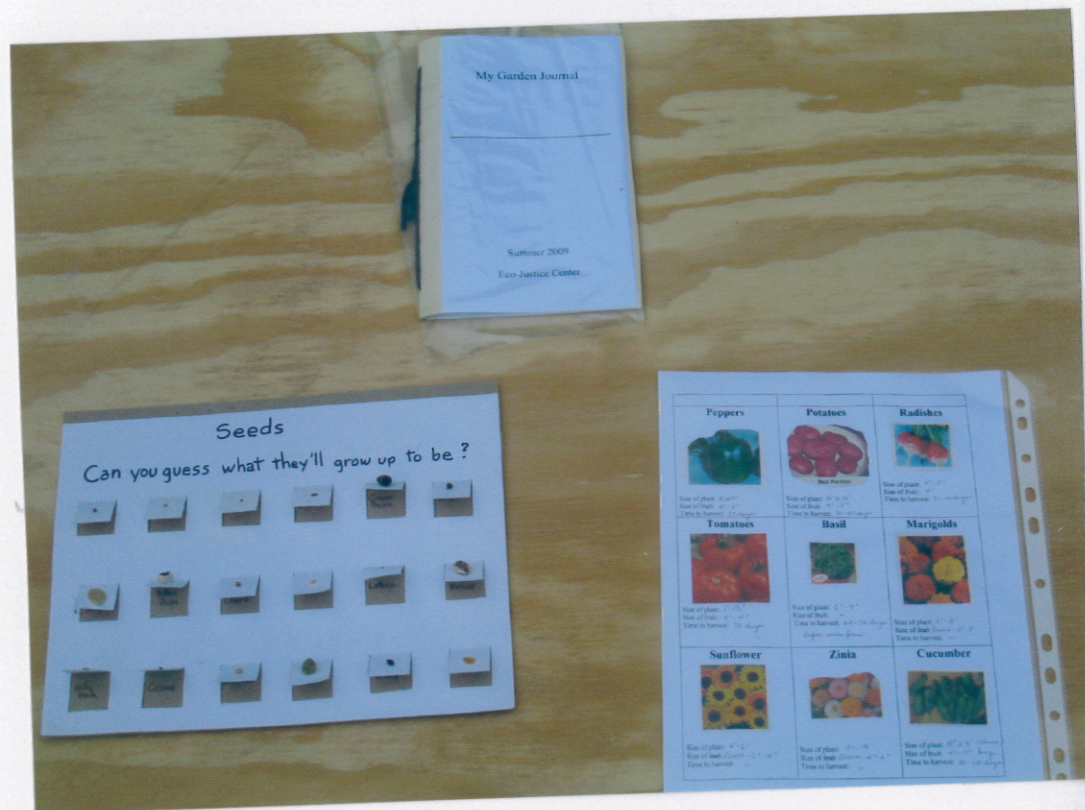
1. First steps: Building the tool rack.
2. Making: Growing the Garden
3. Maintaining: Spreading the Woodchips
4. Last steps: Spreading the News!

1. First Steps: Building the tool rack





2. Moving on: Growing the Garden















"Rooted in Hope": Racine Dominican Eco-Justice Center

Dedicated to environmental education and care of Earth
in the context of community, contemplation, creativity, and cultivation



Ken Follensbee, Alexandria and Cory Mason work to build the tool shelter at the Kids' Garden Plot site.



Gardening News

This spring three new gardening programs included "Yes We Can Garden 101," Kids' Garden Plots, and the start of an ethno-botany garden. In the first program, families were introduced to organic gardening through presentations given by experienced gardeners (Nan Calvert, Marcia & Jim Colsmith, Dusty Schwartz, Rose Woodruff and Sr. Janet). The basics of site location, soil, composting, plant selection/protection, and garden tools were discussed. In addition to useful information, participants took home organic seeds, a tomato plant & cage, and bags of Fr. Dom's Duck Doo.

In the second project, kids and parents are learning about "square foot" gardening as they plan, plant, water, weed, and harvest their 16 square foot plots. Weekly the children record the progress of their garden. We are grateful to the "Helping Hands Club" of Olympia Brown Unitarian Universalist Church who wrote a grant to help build the tool shelter located near the kids' plots and to the Potpourri Garden Club who also helped fund the gardens.

The third project is the beginning of a small ethno-botany garden. It is a plot that nurtures native plants that were used for medicinal purposes by Native Americans and early settlers. The teas and home-remedies still work today!



Our Helping Hands



Are done with their work!