

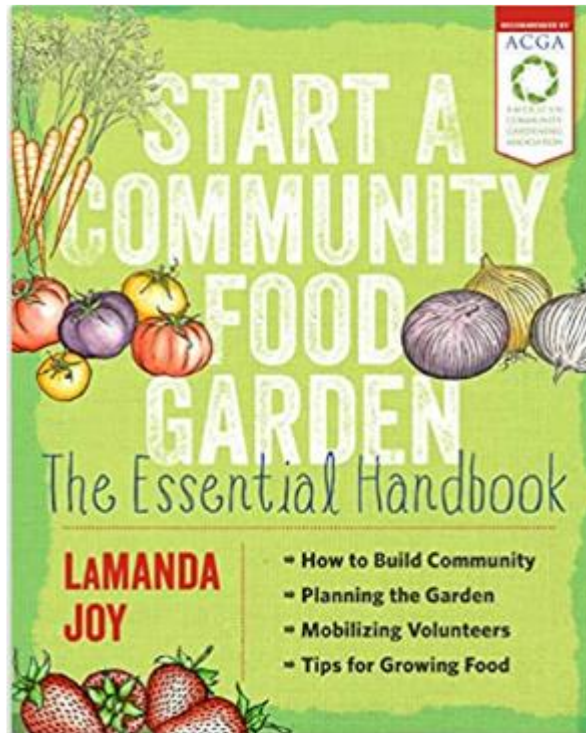


THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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# Dig In! Class 7

Growing Goodwill



**Chapter 5, Mobilizing**

**Chapter 6, The Year-round Community**





# Wisdom from Wyndi

Community Gardens  
are about Relationships

Connect with your community  
– by simply showing up to  
other events and supporting.

Showing up first, before  
pushing agenda can help you  
build trust in the community.



Wyndi Moore  
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**Tanisha is passionate about gardening and is on a lifetime mission to make fresh produce available in Cleveland. Born and raised in Cleveland's Clark-Fulton neighborhood, she recognizes the importance of working together to change lives for the better. As part of her role at FARE, Tanisha coordinates the Heart Smarts program, providing nutrition education, cooking demos, purchasing incentives and healthcare resources in corner stores and independent grocery stores.**

- Microgreen Entrepreneur**
- Master Gardener Volunteer of Cuyahoga County**



Tanisha Velez  
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Ebonie excels at creating partnerships, using available resources, and engaging the nearby community. These elements are some of the most difficult elements of community gardens, and she is a natural at them! It's what makes the Shalom and Tranquility Community Garden special and impactful.

Ebonie  
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## Partnerships

- Partners with a rural farm with a similar mission focus, they collaborate on programming but also exchange growing information
- Relationships, as with the local CDC, have been very beneficial to the garden
- Connections with home improvement retail stores used to get donations of materials





## Use of Resources

- Eagle scout helps with constructing picnic tables and benches
- Incorporated some of the materials that were originally found on the vacant lot—marble stone broken to for a mosaic; tree art project.
- Know what you need for the next project or have a wish list; use this to seek grants

## Community Engagement

- Flyers given to the neighbors, house to house, for garden events
- Food is a huge draw for community members





## Other Orgs to check out:

- **Environmental Health Watch**, <https://www.ehw.org/>
- **Swetland Center at Case**, <https://case.edu/swetland/>
- **The FARE Project**, <https://thefareproject.org/>
- **Feed the Soul & Clubhouse Essentials Inc**,  
<https://www.soulcle.org/>
- **Cleveland Central Neighborhood Promise**,  
<https://socfcleveland.org/cleveland-promise/home>
- **Cleveland-Cuyahoga Food Policy Coalition**,  
<https://www.cleveland-cuyahogacountyfoodpolicycoalition.org/>
- **Ohio Food Policy Coalition** (informative webinars archived on site), <http://ohiofpcn.org/>



**Two important aspects of growing the garden team**

**Leadership or Organizing  
Core Team**

You need this core team as you start the garden, this is your initial leadership. Also, empower participants/gardeners to step into leadership roles as the garden exists over time.

**Gardeners and Volunteers, all  
other participants**

Recruitment ongoing, annual.



# Leadership Team

Skills-based delegation of garden responsibilities.

Think about strengths of team members



## Example Committee Job Descriptions

### Garden Design

- ☐ Measure the entire space.
- ☐ Decide how much will be garden plots.
- ☐ Map out plots.
- ☐ Map out walkways around gardens.
- ☐ Plan for outside border: fence, hedges, other.
- ☐ Set aside a compost area.
- ☐ Place signs, bulletin board, storage containers.
- ☐ Do something to make your garden standout.

### Site Preparation

- ☐ Clear the land.
- ☐ Plow or till.
- ☐ Do soil testing.
- ☐ Lay out and stake plots.
- ☐ Assign plots to gardeners.
- ☐ Keep a plot map with gardeners' names.
- ☐ Arrange water for the site.

### Membership Committee

- ☐ Sign up gardeners and keep their forms.
- ☐ Collect fees for plots if charging.
- ☐ Give all fees to treasurer.
- ☐ Keep a list of all names, addresses, phone numbers, e-mail if used.
- ☐ Notify gardeners of meetings and special events.
- ☐ Recruit new gardeners and maintain a waiting list if necessary.

### Rules Committee

- ☐ Draw up a set of rules for the garden.
- ☐ Have rules voted on at the first gardener's meeting each year.
- ☐ Ensure all gardeners have a copy of the rules and keep them up to date.





# Leadership Team

Process for decision making—what will it look like?



# Consensus

A consensus process aims at bringing the group to mutual agreement by addressing all concerns. It does not require unanimity. In some cases, consensus can take longer than other processes, but it fosters creativity, cooperation, and commitment to final decisions.



## Sample Garden Rules

- ☐ Ten hours of community work is required, more if you can. If work is not done, gardener can pay \$3 for each hour not done and will not get a plot again.
- ☐ No dogs, alcohol, drugs, or firearms allowed.
- ☐ Plots not worked for 2 weeks after being assigned will be given away. Any plot not cared for in two weeks may be given away. If you are ill or for some other reason cannot work your plot, ask the coordinator for help. Ask gardeners to water, weed and harvest your plot if on vacation. Do the same for others.
- ☐ Weeds must be cleaned from plots. Put in trash or cut up for composting.
- ☐ If you bring bottles, cans, or food containers to the garden take them home with you.
- ☐ Trash goes in trash containers.
- ☐ Keep your planting well within your plot. Plant tall plants in the center so you don't shade your neighbor's plots.
- ☐ No unattended children are allowed in the garden.
- ☐ Anyone caught stealing or helping others steal will be put out of the garden.
- ☐ All stakes, string, cages and large plants must be cleared off your plot at the end of the season. You may be charged a cleanup fee on next year's plot fee if you do not clear your plot.
- ☐ Tools must be returned to storage area after use.
- ☐ (If an organic garden) No weed killers, bug killers or chemical fertilizers are allowed.

(The planning committee can change and add to this as for the benefit of their



# Gardeners/Participants/Volunteers

## Annual Registration/Orientation

- Is there a registration fee for plot?
- How can members take produce home?
- Are there required volunteer hours for regular maintenance?
- Are there scheduled of workdays?
- Do you have everyone sign garden rules?
- Do you have everyone sign a hold harmless waiver?
- What does communication look like? How are people added to the distribution list?





# Working with outside volunteer groups



## Seasonal Fun

Winter	Reconnect, plan together
Spring	Building, planting, learning, lost of activity and interest!
Summer	Play, take it easy
Fall	Celebrate your collective accomplishment

# **Last Class, Garden Portfolios and Presentations, June 14**

Opportunity to share their garden projects OR the pieces you have developed throughout the Dig In! program. This is a great chance for participants to get feedback and share challenges or lessons learned.

1. Decide if you would like to present, its not necessary but encouraged 😊
2. Send Britiny the information you would like to share before the day of class, June 13th by 5pm. Photos, mission statement, garden map, event flyer, etc.