

HEAR Roger Doiron,
Saturday's keynote speak about
"Eating Your Neighborhood:
Bringing the Delicious
Revolution into Your Own
Backyard"

- Roger Doiron has been a crusader in making the connection between little picture issues like home gardens and big ones like global warming, food security, and social justice. Roger is the founding director of the nonprofit group Kitchen Gardeners International, a network of over 4700 gardeners and home cooks from 80 countries. KGI's mission is to empower individuals, families, and communities to achieve greater levels of food self-reliance through the promotion of kitchen gardening, home cooking, and sustainable local food systems.

LISTEN to Karen Washington,
Sunday's keynote speaker, on
"Our Future, Our Food: The Role
of Community Gardens in Urban
Agriculture"

- Karen Washington has lived in New York City all her life, and has been a resident of the Bronx for over 22 years. Since 1985 Karen has been a community activist, striving to make the Bronx a better place to live. As a community gardener, Karen has worked with neighborhoods to turn empty lots into community gardens. As an advocate, she has stood up and spoken out for garden protection and preservation. As a member of the La Familia Verde Garden Coalition, she launched City Farms Market, bringing garden fresh vegetables to her neighbors.



Columbus Community Garden Program

Growing to Green is Franklin Park Conservatory's community gardening program, which promotes and provides resources for community gardening and city beautification throughout central Ohio.

Begun in March 2000, Growing to Green currently works with community groups that manage over 70 projects. While the majority are community gardens, others include school gardens, memorial gardens, and neighborhood beautification projects.

Special thanks to the members of the 2008 Ohio Community Gardening Conference Planning Committee: Julia Barton, Elle Adams and Morgan Taggart of OSU Extension, Cuyahoga County; Peter Huttinger, Civic Garden Center, Cincinnati; Michael Szuberla, Toledo Botanical Garden; Luci Beachdell, Five Rivers Metro Parks, Dayton; James Kuhns and Amy DeShon, American Community Gardening Association, Columbus; Noreen Warnock and Michael Jones, Local Matters, Columbus; Eric Pawlowski, Shepherds Corner, Blacklick; and Franklin Park Conservatory Education staff.

For more information about Growing to Green, visit www.fpconservatory.org.

Directions to Franklin Park Conservatory

From the North taking I-71 South into Columbus to the Broad St. exit. Turn left (east) onto Broad, traveling approximately one mile to Franklin Park. The Conservatory entrance is located at Conservatory Dr. on the right or south side.

From the South taking I-71 North into Columbus to the Broad St. exit. Turn right (east) onto Broad and follow the directions above.

From the South taking Route 23 North to I-270 exiting westbound towards Grove City. Take the I-71 North exit into Columbus and follow directions above.

From the East taking I-70 West into Columbus to I-71 North to the Broad St. exit and follow directions above. From the West taking I-70 East into Columbus to I-71 North to the Broad St. exit and follow directions above.

Lead Sponsors:



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Franklin Park Conservatory Women's Board



Operating support is provided by Franklin County Board of Commissioners, The City of Columbus, and The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company.



FRANKLIN PARK CONSERVATORY

Presents



2008 Ohio Community Gardening Conference:

Nourishing Neighborhoods

April 5-6, 2008



2008 Ohio Community Gardening Conference:

Nourishing Neighborhoods

- **LEARN** how professional gardening organizations are collaborating on new gardening initiatives.
- **PARTICIPATE** in panel discussions on hot topics such as nutrition, neighborhood leadership, youth gardening and entrepreneurial activities.
- **MEET** other people interested in growing great gardens and making a difference in their neighborhoods.
- **DISPLAY** information about your program and organization, and learn about others.

Conference Schedule

Saturday, April 5, 2008

Lower Atrium

7-8 a.m. Display table set-up.

8-9 a.m. Registration / Display table viewing.

Grand Atrium

9 a.m. Welcome by Bruce Harkey, Franklin Park Conservatory Executive Director and Columbus City Council member Priscilla Tyson.

9:15a.m. Introduction of Keynote Speaker by Luci Beachdell, Manager
Grow With Your Neighbors Program, Dayton.

9:15-10a.m. Keynote Roger Doiron, Kitchen Gardens International, "Eating Your Neighborhood: Bringing the Delicious Revolution into Your Own Backyard". *A local foods revival is underway in the United States and not a moment too soon. In this provocative and entertaining multimedia presentation, Roger Doiron explains why the local foods revolution needs to become even "localer" and highlights the important role that gardens and gardeners will play in shortening the distance between plot and plate.*

10-10:45 a.m.

Classroom 1: "Green House in the Hood" Rita Robinson and Margie Speerbrecher, Cuyahoga County Master Gardeners. *Master Gardeners from Cuyahoga County bring together the Green Industry and the Justice System. The residents at Alternative Agency learn the basics of horticulture and apply these skills to their lives and into the community.*

Classroom 2: "Planting Partnerships" Wendy McCusker, Nicholas Ard, Carol Welsh and Mussa Farah, Westerville. *A diverse three-fold community garden partnership will share their strategic visions and honor the partnerships by hosting an informative dialog. Somali, Native American and Women's Shelter Community gardens are represented by panel members.*

11:00-11:45 a.m.

Classroom 1: "Herb Thyme" Gwendolyn Davis, Franklin Park Conservatory, Columbus. *This presentation will explore ways of creating beautiful and bountiful gardens using herbs. Learn how to grow, propagate, harvest and preserve while focusing on herbal lore and medicinal applications.*

Classroom 2: "Gardening to Grow Community" Jonathan Meier, Daniel Ingwersen, Christopher Appel, Four Seasons City Farm, Columbus. *Four Seasons panel will discuss various techniques used to increase community involvement in their gardens by turning abandoned lots into gardens and creating a self-sustaining and cooperative food production system.*

12-1:00 p.m. Lunch at Franklin Park Shelter House included in registration fee.

1-1:45 p.m.

Classroom 1: "Rebuilding our Local Food-School Network" Matt Bereza, Ohio State University, Columbus. *This session will explore how local foods increase academic achievement and improve behavioral performance in school children. Participants will learn about field research that incorporated whole foods and local produce as an intervention to academic achievement.*

Classroom 2: "Art in the Urban Garden" James Arter, Greater Columbus Arts Council. *This presentation will demonstrate the transformation of empty city lots to a completed woodland-sculpture gardens. Explore how the arts community, educators, children and spirituality-based organizations make use of the gardens to create a strong connection to the community.*



2- 2:45 p.m.

Classroom 1: "Developing Workforce Skills Through Youth Gardening" Kristi Lekies, OSU Dept. of Human and Community Resource Development, Columbus. *This presentation focuses on two youth gardening programs designed to promote the development of workforce skills. Discussion will include useful strategies for educators and trainers.*

Classroom 2: "Fit to Garden" Stacy Walters, RKT. *Fit to Garden program is designed to help gardeners prepare their body to safely perform the task at hand: the bending, kneeling, twisting, standing and squatting movements necessary for effective garden care. Participants will perform a series of simple Fit to Garden stretches and exercises.*

3-3:15 p.m. Break

3:15- 4 p.m.

Classroom 1: "From Garbage Cans to Gardens" Jeff Smith, Dan Richards-Vermi Wonder LLC, Zanesville. *Turn your trash to treasure with worms! Learn the easy way to use this simple process of natural recycling. Participants will learn the 'ins and outs' of worm composting and work together to make a 'two-minute' worm bin. A drawing for this bin will take place at the end of class.*

3:15- 4:45 p.m.

Classroom 2: "Future of Community Gardens & Urban Agriculture" Karen Washington, La Familia Verde and Jane Hodge, Just Food, New York. *Think outside the raised beds. Explore ways to utilize and vision community gardens as urban agriculture centers. Hear how community gardens are growing food and growing communities. Participants will leave with specific steps to increase the role of community gardens as urban agriculture centers.*

4- 4:45 p.m.

Classroom 1: "Putting the Neighbor back in the Neighborhood" Kwodo Ababio, Columbus. *The presenter will engage the audience in a introspective journey into the various negative views of poor communities and their residents. Successful strategies for renewed involvement in the community using artistic expression, gardening and community outreach programs that build relationships with neighborhood adults and youth.*

7- 10 p.m.

Screening of an episode of *GardenStory*, with Rebecca Frischkorn, Producer. "Community Gardens of the East Village, New York, New York". *Over the past five years, the Garden Story team has explored gardens from North Carolina to Massachusetts to Missouri. Focusing on the relationship between garden and gardener in a refreshing variety of settings, they weave stories of how gardens transform lives and communities. GardenStory host Rebecca Frischkorn will share an episode and recount the history of the community garden movement, including the many challenges and difficulties volunteers in the East Village have met and continue to confront. She will also show the trailer for the entire series. The film is shown in gorgeous high definition widescreen format.*

Silent Auction, appetizers, beer, wine and entertainment.

Sunday, April 6, 2008

8-9 a.m. Registration in Lower Atrium / Display table viewing.

Palm House

9 a.m. Welcome by Michael Heglaw, Director of Education and Interpretation Franklin Park Conservatory.

9:15am Introduction of Keynote Speaker by Julia Barton, Community Gardening Program, Cuyahoga County.

9:15am-10 a.m. Keynote Karen Washington, La Familia Verde, New York City, "Our Future, Our Food: The role of Community Gardens in Urban Agriculture". *More and more people are becoming concerned about where their food originates. We as community gardeners are growing food locally and realizing the benefits. Are we doing enough as growers and consumers in educating our communities? Ms. Washington will challenge us to take action and inspire us to use our gardens to educate.*

10 a.m.-10:45 a.m.

Classroom 1: "Nourishing Minds and Bodies: Nutrition Education Through Gardening" Shannon Amos, Children's hunger Alliance, Columbus. *Learn how lessons and activities for gardening and nutrition education can complement each other and encourage children to try new foods and eat healthier. All participants will leave with a resource packet of ideas to implement with their own youth programs.*

Classroom 2: "Art and the Community Garden" Trisha Dehnpostel, Weinland Park Community Garden, Columbus. *This session will offer participants the resources and inspiration they need to bring art into their gardens. Discussion and visuals will be shared while participants use sketches and photos create a collage. Bring along photos of your garden to add to the collage!*

11-11:45a.m.

Classroom 1: "Rain Gardens" Stephanie Suter, Central Ohio Rain Garden Initiative, Columbus. *Learn how rain gardens can be an effective tool for community issues, storm water, and habitat conservation. Planting lists and installation information will be provided.*

Classroom 2: "Asphalt Gardening Workshop" Kate Thomas, M.S., Emily and Jessica Levine, Cleveland. *After introducing and discussing the concept of asphalt gardening, presenters will lead the audience in an educational activity, simulating the construction of a garden on pavement. Participants will depart the session with a vision for growth in previously thought infertile landscapes.*

Chihuly Resource Center:

"The Garden as a Protector of the Planet" Rebecca Frischkorn, Executive Producer of *GardenStory*, Washington DC. *Ms. Frischkorn will feature a video presentation on The Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis. This program depicts the extraordinary efforts of the Missouri Botanical Garden to preserve and protect our natural environment on a local, regional, and international scale. It explores the many facets of the Garden's vital mission to promote biodiversity through its outstanding programs in scientific research, conservation, sustainable development, and public education.*

12-1:00 p.m. Lunch at Multi Purpose Building with 'Local Matters' Special thanks to Local Matters for their help with the menu and lunch preparation.



1-1:45 p.m.

Classroom 1: "Local Matters: Piecing Together the Patchwork of a Local Food System Quilt" Michael Jones, Susan Weber of Local Matters, Columbus. *A healthy, local foodshed is like a well-made patchwork quilt: a rich and diverse combination of elements combined with a careful, loving hand to make a beautiful, functional whole. Join Local Matters in weaving together the patches needed for a colorful, local foodshed 'quilt'.*

Classroom 2: "Pathways to the Healing Garden" Jessica Roach LPN, Tara Williams LMT, RN and Lisa Armstrong, Columbus. *Explore existing programs that emphasize health and wellness as an educational extension of the garden. Participants will have an opportunity to develop garden designs related to specific health care issues.*

2-2:45 p.m.

Classroom 1: "Planting Pride: Beautifying and revitalizing your community with America in Bloom," America In Bloom Panel, Columbus. *Presenters will share insight on AIB, how it enhances communities, and how to get the entire community involved – citizens, business, and even the municipal government. The presenters will share their unique stories, verbally and visually, about the positive transformations their communities experienced due to involvement in the AIB program.*

Classroom 2: "Nurturing Pollinators: Ecological Strategies and Sustainance Apiculture" Eric Pawlowski, Shepherd's Corner, Blacklick. *Native and migratory pollinator populations are declining, most notoriously exhibited by the recent Colony Collapse Disorder among honeybees. Participants in this workshop will leave with the skills and confidence to design garden features that will actively increase pollinator populations at their site.*

3-3:15 p.m. Break

3:15- 4:45 p.m.

Classroom 1: "Empowering our Youth to Nurture the Environment" Susan VonderHaar, Dater Montessori Nature Center, Cincinnati. *This double session promises to be very participatory with several interactive components. Award-winning Cincinnati Dater Montessori Nature Center and its developers present their "Curricular Activities Guide" in this interactive workshop for community garden educators.*

Classroom 2: "Garden Reciprocity-Faith Reaching Out and Reaching In" and "Sustainability" Linda Casto, Susannah Evans, Rick Collins, Marge Telerski and Wendy Finch McCusker, Valleyview.

Part I *It's all in the garden – the great equalizer. Gardens create an atmosphere of acceptance and caring to all who enter them. Learn how four separate faith based organizations are utilizing gardens in their outreach efforts.*

Part II *Garden sustainability is more than good earth stewardship – it's finding funding, goods and services to keep a garden vibrantly alive and growing through the years.*

4:45- 5 p.m.

Classroom 1-4: Closing remarks by Bill Dawson, Growing to Green Coordinator, Columbus

5 p.m. Conference Adjourns

For more information about the conference, please contact Bill Dawson at 614.645.5952 or growingtogreen@fpconservatory.org