

This service starts with the core focus of Supporting Community Agriculture. The SCA is an in-between support organization. Any and all who wish to grow a plant or two, have the same tasks, to achieve what they would consider a success. The SCA's commitment is to help the community with these tasks. This is an active service to help knit the needs and services in local areas.

Getting back to local gardening has never been more important. What seeds can we start to help?

The Garden and the Gardener, as co-operative - formative forces, set the theme.

#### ❖ Getting plants into gardens and harvested.

- Vegetable plants for the whole year, on the biodynamic growing cycles.
- Planned gardens, that allow someone to have a productive, enjoyable, healthy and most of all, a manageable growing experience. Guidance and services to promote and foster this notion would come from the local community.
  - The local community has within it the means and the gumption to do what is needed. Living and working in community is the part we want to nurture. Helping groups, like churches set up and provide gardening support to their members and local area. Also helping the plant growers supply the plants for these groups and individuals.
- Start up factors that should be addressed.
  - Growing months determined, veggie list made, amount of harvest desired, garden area available, customer labor requirements, monthly planting schedule, a two month lead time for seed starting is needed, physical garden improvements and preparation needed.
- Basic gardening factors for a prolonged and sustainable garden.
  - Crop type, leaf, fruit, root and flower, planned for a crop rotation. Timely applications of preps, teas and compost, before, during and after the growing season. Annual and perennial plant selections for food, health, herbs, flowers, needs and wants.
- Personal factors for a prolonged and sustainable garden.
  - We're talking about people who want to garden, who would garden if they could and the rest of us who must. Addressing our personal abilities, with the needs of the garden, shows what must be done by someone else.

#### ❖ Being ready before the need, keep it simple and remember why we are doing this.

- A strong proactive advocacy toward the end user is the tendency and important. A fair trade and an honest desire for the best to all, leads the direction in the SCA service.
  - This leads to the responsibility of filling in the details. It is not enough to make a note of the community needs.
  - The SCA needs to be an evolving support of those needs.

#### ❖ SCA services

- Internet based interactive service for the gardener and the service community.
  - Plant lists, planting calendars, articles helping with start up and basic gardening factors, service and product contacts, order forms and such.
- Guidance services
  - Home gardeners, community gardens, schools projects with the focus on how to get plants in the ground and harvested. A support service with a promotional leaning towards the biodynamic growing methods. How to have a biodynamic garden without the gardener being a strong BD practitioner.
  - Helping people and companies that create and provide the products and services to the gardening community. We would help them meet the biodynamic requirements for their products and services. Simple additions and method changes by the service providers would take over the BD steps from the gardener who cannot do them.
  - Assistance to make all of the above and more possible.