

GROWING ROOTS EAST END NETWORK

4TH COLLABORATIVE NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING

**WEDNESDAY,
MAY 15TH, 2019**
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
AT LANTRIP ELEMENTARY
100 TELEPHONE RD

SAVE THE DATE

GARDEN WORK DAY/BLOCK PARTY

MAY 4TH, 9 AM - 12 PM
BRISCOE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

URBAN HARVEST

MAY 4TH, 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM
URBAN HARVEST: HUB DISTRIBUTION

MAY 11TH, 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM
URBAN HARVEST: ADOPT-A-GARDEN
VOLUNTEER EVENT/ DIG IT DAY!

MAY 11TH, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM
SQUARE FOOT GARDENING CLASS
MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCE

MAY 29TH, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
IN THE GARDEN: SUMMER VEGETABLE
PLANTING CLASS

MCGOVERN CENTENNIAL FAMILY GARDENS

MAY 29TH, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
STARTING A COMMUNITY OR SCHOOL
GARDEN WORKSHOP

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON-DOWNTOWN

CHECK OUT THEIR WEBSITE:

[HTTP://URBANHARVEST.ORG/EVENTS](http://urbanharvest.org/events)

OUR LINKS:



[HTTPS://WWW.ELCENTRODECORAZON.ORG/G-R-E-E-N/](https://www.elcentrodecorazon.org/g-r-e-e-n/)



[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/G.R.E.E.N.EASTEND/](http://www.facebook.com/g.r.e.e.n.eastend/)



[@G.R.E.E.N.EASTEND](https://www.instagram.com/g.r.e.e.n.eastend)



MEETING NOTES FOR APRIL 17TH

At our fourth meeting we had 4 gardens represented at this meeting: Misson Milby, Milby HS, Magnolia MSC, and Gallegos ES. We also had 3 representatives from Commissioner Garcia's Office. Thank you to everyone who was able to make it out to this meeting. We hope you continue to support our efforts. Mr. Steve Stelzer gave us a great class over composting material and food waste management. If you would like the specific notes for these please contact our garden coordinator.

NEXT MAY MEETING

At our next meeting we will continue to visit other East End gardens. This time we would like to have an envisioning meeting to prepare for the summer and next school year. We would like your input on the activities you would like G.R.E.E.N. to host or resources to provide. Please come in participate at this meeting as it will be a potluck this time around! Bring your favorite nutrient rich dish.

GARDEN BLOCK PARTY VIDEO FEATURING G.R.E.E.N.

Rev. Paul Richards-Kuan shared:

"As some of the team has been brainstorming how to build on the block party idea but with a more sustainable approach, we found an interesting way that we want to merge some of our community garden work with our block parties. What I am working on now is trying to convince various churches in the East End to adopt a garden at each school and then have various congregations begin throwing block parties/garden work days.

At our last garden work day one of the churches I am involved in the showed up and we had a great time and somebody suggested inviting a friend who was a DJ to come out.

Somebody else volunteered to bring some food and pretty soon the leaders who had been a part of it previously got together and realized that we had an interesting model sprouting up before us! So now I am thinking about how we can expand it.

CONTINUE



I was thinking about gardening metaphors and came up with the parable of the mustard seed and thought, maybe we can shoot a video at the next garden work day/block party (or at a later date) and it can be a marketing tool for other churches to join up."

Let's support Rev. Paul in shooting this video at our next garden work day at Briscoe Elementary School May 4th. We believe this opportunity could grow interest and build service in our East End community!

DOES YOUR SCHOOL HAVE SPACE FOR A FREE POLLINATOR GARDEN?

Houston Wilderness is working on the "TEXAS MONARCH FLYWAY STRATEGY" (Texas MFS), a statewide effort to restore, increase and enhance Monarch habitat across four major regions in the state - all of which serve as critical links in the Monarch butterfly's journey along the Central Flyway from Canada to Mexico and back every year. The Texas MFS also serves to protect habitat for other pollinators that are crucial to local ecosystems and agriculture. The four regions included in the program are: Gulf-Houston, South Texas, North Texas and Hill Country. The Texas MFS brings together multiple nonprofit, governmental and school-based organizations, including large-landscape areas across Texas, 30+ municipalities, 15+ county governments, multiple school districts and non-profit organizations.

The Gulf-Houston Monarch Flyway Strategy (MFS) was created as a collaborative region-wide effort focused on the preservation and creation of monarch butterfly and other pollinator habitat in the 8-county area in and around Greater Houston. The Strategy has 3 phases in urban, suburban and rural areas as well as long term sustainability and maintenance need. The Strategy focuses on 4 major key parts: 1) Habitat Conservation, 2) Education and Outreach, 3) Research, Monitoring & Job Creation, and 4) Partnership & Collaboration.

Please reach out to Jose Alducin at Jose@houstonwilderness.org for more information.

Also, Houston Wilderness is excited to announce a new "Careers in Conservation" scholarship program. A scholarship of \$1,000 will be awarded to 5 promising individuals interested in pursuing both undergraduate and graduate-level work in an environmental field. Read more and download the application at <http://houstonwilderness.org/mfs> - Deadline is April 29, 2019.

SALUD AMERICA! WROTE AN ARTICLE OF OUR G.R.E.E.N. EAST END WORK

Salud America! is a national Latino-focused organization whose mission is to inspire people to drive community change for the health of Latino children and families. They wrote an article over our work in the East End featuring Jorge as the pilot of our collaborative. Check it out:

<https://salud-america.org/jorge-olvera-fights-food-swamps-with-community-gardens/>

Jorge Olvera shares:

"We had a fantastic article written by Salud America! about the work we are employing in the East End. Thank you for your arduous work to keep the GREEN Collaborative active and supporting each other these past few months. I am looking forward to our continued work to address childhood obesity and food access through gardening! The credit belongs to y'all!"



UPDATE OF WORK DAYS AT EAST END GARDENS

April 13th: At the Gallegos School Garden, Mr. Karim Alston had around 80 volunteers show up during their gardening day to lend a hand. They were able to build more garden beds and expand the garden. A mural was painted by Mr. Francisco Rodriguez and his students from Austin HS. This is one of the best turn outs we have seen yet. Special thanks to everyone who has assisted at this Garden Work Day/Block Party!

May 4th: Briscoe Elementary invites us to help restore and renovate their school garden! Volunteers are needed.

RESOURCES FOR YOUR GARDEN

Ms. Verdin, Milby HS shared:

Audubon Society is a garden vendor. Prices are very affordable (example: 42" tomato cage is only \$3.42 and 4' x 100' landscape fabric \$31.99 ; 2 gal watering can \$9.89). They are not an approved HISD Vendor, but using PTO funds or grant money is accepted.

<https://www.audubon.org/>

ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM/EAST END FARMERS MARKET

Mr. Roy Rodriguez, from the East End Management District, is still offering the entrepreneurship opportunity for children involved in the school gardens to sell crops grown at the local East End Farmers Market. He can provide our own booth at the Farmers Market, where we will be able to organize a schedule to staff the booths through rotations from different schools. We would be able to sell produce, starter plants, seed pellets gathered from our gardens. Contact our garden coordinator if you and your students are interested in participating.

<http://eastendhouston.com/market/>

READY FOR PLANTING

BEGINNING OF MAY:

AMARANTH, LEAF/SEED
 BEAN(MUNG), SEED
 BEAN (YARLONG), SEED
 BITTERMELON, SEED
 BUCKWHEAT, SEED
 CRANBERRY HIBISCUS, SEED OR PLANT
 CULANTRO, SEED OR PLANT
 CUMIN, SEED
 EPAZOTE, SEED OR PLANT
 FUZZY GOURD, SEED OR PLANT
 GROUND CHERRY, SEED
 KANGKONG (ONG CHOY), SEED
 LUFFA, SEED, PLANT OR SPROUT
 MILLET (PROSO), SEED
 NEW ZEALAND SPINACH, SEED OR PLANT
 OREGANO (CUBAN), PLANT
 PEA (PIGEON, SEED
 PEANUTS, SEED
 PEPPERCORN (BLACK), PLANT
 RICE, SEED OR PLANT
 ROSELL (JAMAICA), SEED OR PLANT
 SNAKE GOURD (LAO), SEED
 SWEET POTATO, TRANSPLANT, PLANT
 SWEET POTATO SPINACH, PLANT
 TINDORA (IVY GOURD), PLANT
 WAX GOURD, SEED PLANT OR SPROUT
 (FOUND ON THE URBAN HARVEST PLANTING GUIDE)



VISIT US!

Our name has changed on all social media. These are the updated links.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/G.R.E.E.N.EastEnd/

Website: <https://www.elcentrodecorazon.org/g-r-e-e-n/>

Instagram: @G.R.E.E.N.EastEnd



CONTACT INFORMATION

JORGE OLVERA

Community Engagement Manager
jolvera@elcentrochc.org

KARIM ALSTON

HISD-Campus Garden Advocate
karim.alston@houstonisd.org

YARMILLA REYES

Garden Coordinator
yarmillareyes@gmail.com