



2009 Entrepreneur Class

New Microentrepreneur Class Starts in April

The next Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Microentrepreneur Class is starting in April 2010. This program helps start-up and young businesses on the East Side. All East Side entrepreneurs are welcome.

Class training lasts eight weeks and includes topics such as operations management, marketing, financial management, one-to-one assistance with creating a successful business, and preparing a business plan, plus eight hours of one-on-one time with the instructor. Those who successfully complete the course and locate their businesses in target neighborhoods are eligible for ongoing business support services.

Some examples of businesses started by people who have previously taken the course include graphics, landscaping, photography, food service, restoration of wood furniture and works of art, custom floral design for weddings and events and exterior and interior painting. The course is sponsored by the Dayton's Bluff Community Council and the Neighborhood Development Center. There is a small registration fee based on a sliding fee scale. The next session will start in April 2010 and class size is limited.

Please call Karin at 651-772-2075 or email Karin@DaytonsBluff.org for an application.

Rain Garden Workshops

Curious about rain gardens?

Find out how they can help the environment and beautify your yard. Rain gardens are specially designed and planted to capture rainwater and snow-melt so it can seep naturally into the ground. On St. Paul's East Side, neighborhood and environmental groups are working to encourage rain gardens as a way to "green" our communities and protect the water quality of the Mississippi River.

Two upcoming workshops will provide help and answer questions on how to create a rain garden. Whether you are a homeowner or renter, plan to attend the workshop at the location that works best for you.

Thursday, March 4, 6:30 p.m.
Wilder Recreation Center
958 Jessie St.
St. Paul, MN 55101

Please RSVP by Monday, March 1, to Becky Meyer at the East Side Neighborhood Development Company at rebecameyer@esndc.org, or 651-288-8750.

Tuesday, March 9,
11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Metro State University Library
Room 302 (Eco Lab)
645 East 7th Street
St. Paul, MN 55106

Please RSVP to Nancy Bagshaw-Reasoner at nancybagshawreasoner@metrostate.edu.

Landscape specialist Shawn Tracy and other local experts will be on hand to provide advice tailored to your property and your interests. They will help you:

- Design a rain garden that is right for

your yard

- Choose plants that do well in rain-gardens – and look great
- Apply for funds to help with the cost of installing your rain garden
- Get free help installing your garden

Refreshments will be provided.

This workshop is presented by the Capitol Region Watershed District, Dayton's Bluff Community Council's Greening Dayton's Bluff, East Side Neighborhood Development Company, Lower Phalen Creek Project and Ramsey Conservation District.

Community Garden Plots Now Available

by Jennifer Herman

Raise your own fruits and vegetables in a garden plot at the new Skidmore Park Community Garden!

Plots come in two sizes: 40 square feet for \$20 per year and 64 square feet for \$25 per year. Applications are available online at www.daytonsbluff.org and at Facebook (www.Bit.ly/bDQR17) or at the District Council office, 798 East Seventh Street.

Submit applications to the council office by mail or in person. They must be received no later than April 24, 2010, and are limited to one application per household. Plots will be assigned in the order applications are received. To receive a garden plot, you must attend the Spring Kickoff Work Day on May 1 at 9:00 a.m. at the Skidmore Park Community Garden, 1085 East Fourth Street. Questions? Contact us at: skidmorepark@gmail.com or 651-772-2075.

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Learn about Heirloom Seeds and Organic Soil

In March and April, the Dayton's Bluff Community Council will host two presentations to get gardeners ready for spring.

Are you confused about what heirloom, cultivar or hybrid means on the seed packet? Do you want to know what open-pollinated means?

On Tuesday, March 16, at 6:30 p.m. Mary Mac, a former Ramsey County Master Gardener who lives in Dayton's Bluff, will present information on growing heirloom seeds. She will answer questions on care of the young plants and how to rate their quality.

Mary Mac will make a second presentation on Tuesday, April 13, at 6:30 p.m. on working with organic soil. She will unravel the how-tos and what-ifs of growing your flowers and vegetables organically. She will answer your questions about preparation, weed control and bug control.

Both presentations will be held in the council meeting room, 798 East Seventh Street, St. Paul.

To register, email Karin@DaytonsBluff.org or call 651-772-2075.

Book Reading: Community Service—Community Gardening

On March 18 at 7:00 pm, August Hoffman will read from his book, *Unity Through Community Service Activities* and answer questions from the audience. The event will take place at the Dayton's Bluff Community Council meeting room at 798 East Seventh Street. The author is a professor of psychology at Metropolitan State University.

The book points to community service as an ideal way to help define how young people deal with each other and to facilitate these interactions. It addresses ways to overcome divisions, foster multicultural group development, and reduce ethnocentrism and ethnic conflict.

Dayton's Bluff gardeners may be particularly interested in one of Professor Hoffman's local projects. With his students at Metro State, he has created a community garden in the greenhouse on the grounds just above the university library's parking lot.

According to Sage Holben, organizer of the event, "August focuses as much on community gardens as on building communities." To ensure a space, email Karin@DaytonsBluff.org or call Karin at 651-772-2075.

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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