

◆ MRC Community Garden & Orchard Partner Organization & Garden Group Information ◆

BASIC INFORMATION:

MRC will lease appropriate abandoned property throughout the City of Muncie to Partner Organizations who will then manage and assist Garden Groups in growing vegetable, fruit, and/or flower gardens and/or orchards. This program is for the use of the abandoned property BY individual or small group gardens and orchards, not for commercial purposes.

BASIC PROCESS:

A Request for Qualifications will be published asking for potential Partner Organizations to submit qualifications for property they would like to develop into a garden/orchard and documentation of the ability and the means to manage the administration and operations of the garden/orchard with each Garden Group. The MRC will assign and enter into a one-year-lease and a three-year Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Partner Organization for each abandoned property to be used. The Partner Organization will then communicate and market the garden/orchard opportunity to the community. Garden Groups will be either previously formed or form as a result of this process where such groups will work with the Partner Organization to develop the garden or orchard. Details and provisions of such collaboration between the Garden Group and Partner Organization will be ruled by the Community Garden & Orchards section of the Policy and Procedure Manual of the Muncie Redevelopment Commission for Abandoned Residential Properties Located in Muncie, Indiana and other terms and conditions the parties agree.

PARTNER ORGANIZATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Be a not-for-profit organization who has an interest in redeveloping abandoned lots where there is no proposed plan for use by the City of Muncie;
- Have the ability and the means to manage the administration and operations of the garden or orchard with each Garden Group as required under local, State, and Federal laws; and
- Attend the program information meeting and submit the required Request for Qualifications.

GARDEN GROUP REQUIREMENTS:

- Be a neighborhood community, a school-based, or institutional group comprising of more than one household within the general locale of the abandoned property with the intent of growing produce for their own use; produce is not to be sold;
- Obtain approval from the Partner Organization;
- Provide letters of support from neighboring property owners for use of the abandoned lot as a garden or orchard; and
- Adhere to the provisions in the lease agreement with the Partner Organization.

For more information, please contact MRC Neighborhood Investment Committee, City Hall, Office of Community Development, 300 N. High Street, 3rd Floor, Muncie, Indiana 47305, Phone (765) 747-4825, Fax (765) 747-4898, Email zbishop@cityofmuncie.com, Website: www.cityofmuncie.com/mrcresidential