



EDIBLE
FLINT

2015

edible flint

Annual Report

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Formed in 2009 following a number of community conversations, *edible flint* is a network of people and organizations interested in collaboration around healthy food access, productive reuse of vacant land and education around local food systems. The network engages in several efforts that support residents' ability to connect, grow, and access healthy food. With this mission in mind, *edible flint* has divided its efforts among five different work groups, each self-organized to address the specific issues and opportunities in our local food system. Throughout the year, *edible flint's* work groups envision, plan and implement these efforts using a consensus based decision-making model.

“*edible flint* has been essential in building connections between individuals and organizations in support of strengthening the local food network” - An *edible flint* evaluation participant

Organizational Work Group

OWG Overview



The Organizational Work Group (OWG) was formed with the goal of building an organization which is sustainable and resilient to advance the mission of *edible flint*. In 2015, OWG completed the third Annual Report and held the organization's second Annual Meeting where 61 were in attendance. Through outreach, meetings, and events *edible flint* reached 4,626 residents. OWG also manages communications for the organization, ending 2015 with 915 Twitter followers, 1,536 likes on FaceBook and 200 average website visits a day.

Evaluation Project

OWG and the Leadership Board engaged Dr. Rick Sadler of the MSU College of Human Medicine to help with an evaluation of all our programs and the overall mission of *edible flint*. There were three phases to the evaluation: a survey for the general public, multiple focus groups with participants invited to answer more in-depth questions and numerous interviews with key informants who have valuable perspectives about how the organization can meet the needs of the community. The evaluation findings will inform the way that *edible flint* organizes itself to better serve the Flint community.

Some Results

Survey

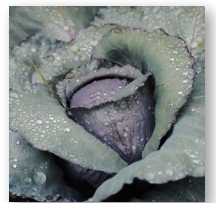
Respondents agreed most strongly about the value of *edible flint's* services and programs. Most agreeing that *edible flint* has contributed to their garden successes.

Focus Groups

The Flint community has a solid core of experienced local/urban farmers/gardeners with a range of skill sets. And although gardening is hard work, people take notice when such positive developments happen in their neighborhood.

Key Informants

edible flint is seen as the centerpiece of the local food system, the managers of all things local food, and leaders on engagement/ education



Garden Starters

The Garden Starters work group exists to increase Flint's capacity to produce healthy food. Through knowledge sharing, training, technical assistance, and garden resources this group aims to increase the number and effectiveness of food gardens in our city. The Garden Starters Work Group executes three main projects: Kits and Services, the Demonstration Garden, and the Training Program. Garden Starters Training Classes give aspiring and existing food growers the skills and techniques necessary to grow productive food gardens and utilize the available land in our city. Garden Starters Kits and Services provides soil testing, plants, seeds, compost and tilling services at reduced cost to Flint growers enabling residents to start and maintain a vegetable garden. The Demonstration Garden showcases what can be done on a vacant lot and explores new techniques and ideas for designing and maintaining vegetable gardens in Flint.



Kits and Services



In 2015, there were **324** veggie kits picked up by buyers at Distribution Day in May. This event also featured various educational demonstrations. For a reduced price the Garden Starters program provided tilling for new gardens, soil testing and compost delivery in Flint. In 2015, **26** gardens were tilled for the first time.

Demo Garden



In 2015, the Demonstration garden had **25** volunteers who helped with the work by donating **550** hours of time. Countless neighbors shared in the bounty of **1,795 lbs** of produce grown. The space is configured to welcome gardeners of all abilities as a result of the raised garden beds.

Training Program



In 2015, **30** students completed the **14-week** class focused on local food systems, sustainable food gardening, pest management, soil health, and food preservation.

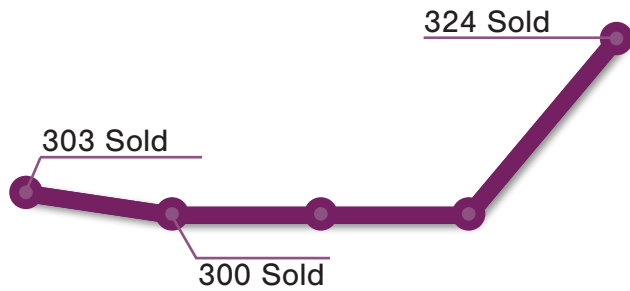
“Great very knowledgeable speakers” and **“Great for us urban gardeners”** - Two quotes from 2015 class participants

Garden Starters

5yr. Kits and Services Overview

Garden Starter Kits Sold

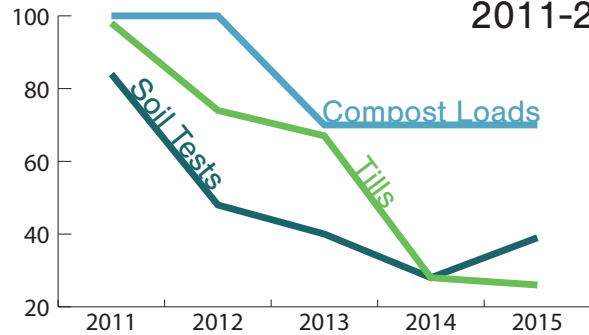
2011-2015



Number of kits sold over 5 years
1527

Garden Starter Services

2011-2015



Number of services sold over 5 years

Soil Tests **239** Tills **293** Compost Loads **410**

826 gardens in Flint have been serviced by *edible flint* over the past 5 years

Food Garden Tour

In 2015 *edible flint* celebrated their 7th Annual Food Garden Tour, the work group highlighted the way our community is addressing a number of challenges by showcasing a diversity of gardens that are transforming neighborhoods, increasing property values, employing youth, removing blight, increasing food access, encouraging self-reliance, improving diets and decreasing grocery bills by coordinating a bus and bike food garden tour on July 29, 2015. More than **247 people** participated in visiting **17 different innovative and inspiring food gardens** across the City of Flint, followed by a community celebration that took place at the Flint Farmers' Market with food, music and fellowship. This events supports the vision and principles of the Flint Master Plan.



EDIBLE FLINT ACCOUNTING SNAP SHOT

DATE: 12/31/2015

Income	Food Garden Tour		Garden Starter Services		Garden Starter Training		Access/Education		COOP		Organ. Workgroups		Total	
	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date
Individual/Business Contributions		284.00										3,800.00		4,084.00
Corporate/Business Grants												116,526.00		0.00
Foundation Trusts/Grants												5,000.00		116,526.00
Federal Grants												7,827.02		14,882.15
Previous year carryover	8,285.14	8,285.14	13,166.46	13,166.46	4,111.00	4,111.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,827.02	7,827.02	33,389.62

Program Service Fees															
Membership Dues															0.00
Interest - Savings/ Short term investments													160.60		160.60
Sales - tuition, kits, services	10,000.00	2,820.00	8,375.00	8,375.00	8,532.00	1,639.00	1,639.00								12,991.00
Sales - Miscellaneous															0.00
Special Events															0.00
TOTAL INCOME	18,285.14	11,389.14	31,423.61	31,580.61	5,750.00	5,750.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	129,353.02	133,313.62	184,811.77	182,033.37

In-kind Contributions															
Donated pro services		860.00									1,000.00				0.00
Donated goods & volunteers @ \$21.50/hr		4,020.50									350.00				4,020.50
Donated use of facilities		312.50													1,437.50
TOTAL IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS	0.00	5,193.00	0.00	0.00	775.00	0.00	1,350.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,318.00

TOTAL INCOME (INCLUDING IN-KIND)	18,285.14	16,582.14	31,423.61	32,355.61	5,750.00	7,100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	129,353.02	133,313.62	184,811.77	189,351.37
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***Special thanks to the Ruth Mott Foundation and the United States Department of Agriculture for major support during 2015

Total income - without in-kind \$182,033.37

EDIBLE FLINT ACCOUNTING SNAPSHOT

DATE: 12/31/2015

Expense	Food Garden Tour		Garden Starter Services		Garden Starter Training		Access/Education		COOP	Organ. Workgroup		Total	
	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date		Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date
Salaries and wages										61761.25	61761.25	61761.25	61761.25
Payroll Taxes(frings)										9776.00	9776.00	9776.00	9776.00
ACA Health Fee										8340.00	8340.00	8340.00	8340.00

Purchased Services & Supplies													
									COOP				
	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date		Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date
Consulting													0.00
Web Maintenance											165.04	165.04	0.00
Program Related		4050.12		11420.92		4904.70		0.00			0.00	20375.74	0.00
Professional Services		200.00		7401.00		2000.00					23600.22	23600.22	33201.22

Business Related Expenses													
									COOP				
	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date		Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date
Travel and Conference						354.11					1732.75	1732.75	0.00
Advertising				20.00									0.00
Bank Charges						21.57							0.00
Postage		74.62		300.25									0.00
Accounting													0.00

Other Expenses													
Purchases (equipment)/ Rental													
Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date
2690.00	2690.00											2690.00	2690.00

TOTAL EXPENSES	7014.74	0.00	19142.17	0.00	7280.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	79877.25	105375.26	82567.25	138812.55
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In-Kind Services														
									COOP					
	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date		Budget	To Date	Budget	To Date	
Donated Professional Services		860.00				1000.00							0.00	
Donated Facilities		4020.50											0.00	
Donated Items-scholarships/volunteers		312.50		775.00		350.00							0.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES (including in-kind)	2690.00	12207.74	0.00	19917.17	0.00	8630.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	79877.25	105375.26	82567.25	146130.55

Total Expenses - without In-Kind \$138,812.55
 Checking Balance 12/31/15 \$43,220.82



How We Work

Individuals involved with *edible flint* are called participants. Each participant is welcome and encouraged to make decisions at general meetings and in work groups through the consensus decision making process. Programs of *edible flint* are designed, organized and executed by work groups. Work groups support the overall mission of *edible flint* with the energy of participants. Participants collaborate to implement programs and projects defined by the group's purpose and goals. *edible flint* is guided by a Leadership Board which provides the structure for collaboration to support the mission of *edible flint*. The charge to the members of the Leadership Board, both from within *edible flint* and the community at large is to give financial oversight and insure that activities and decisions of the group are aligned with the mission.

Thank You

Thanks to the participants of *edible flint* for a busy and productive 2015. We also thank our funders for their contributions which have greatly supported our efforts to grow healthy food to reconnect with the land and each other.

2015 Finances

Total Income: \$182,033.37

Total Expenses: \$138,812.55

2015 Balance: \$43,220.82

Partners

Collaborating with community partners is the key to the *edible flint* network. In 2015, these partners include the Ruth Mott Foundation; Genesee MSU Extension Office; Genesee County Land Bank; Flint Farmer's Market; Neighborhood Engagement Hub; Genesee County Health Department; Genesee Health System; Hurley Medical Center; Flint River Farm; Harvesting Earth Educational Farm; Mott Community College; Genesys Regional Medical Center; MSU College of Human Medicine; UM Flint, Mr. Rogers Garden Program ;Genesee Intermediate School District; the Greater Flint Health Coalition; the Flint Area Reinvestment Office; the Genesee Farm Bureau; Genesee County Parks and Recreation; Mass Transportation Authority; Crim Fitness Foundation; and the Food Bank of Eastern MI.