

June 13, 2011

University of Orange

Free D Application of Tim Delorm

Project Type: Construction of Dorothy's Garden and the Miller Street Community Farm and the Provision of Gardening Education

Project Description: I have been interested in gardening from an early age. Among my earliest memories are the times spent running through my grandfather's garden on the banks of the Saranac River in northernmost New York State. Pop grew a veritable cornucopia of fresh vegetables and flowers for cutting in his 1-acre garden. As a child I loved running among the gladiola and snap dragon beds with the colorful flowers towering overhead. Pop taught me how to grow and harvest vegetables and his love for the garden brought him and his family great joy while at the same time filling the table with produce and the cellar with canned goods for the long Adirondack winter.

This early exposure combined with my teen years spent working on a farm and in greenhouses led me to the S.U.N.Y. College of Environmental Science and Forestry where I received a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree in 1980. Following graduation I spent 30 years working for Corporate Design firms providing landscape design services for corporate, institutional, and municipal clients. As the years passed I became a partner in these firms and took on greater levels of leadership, management and business development responsibility. As a result, my direct involvement in the creative process with projects and clients diminished each year to my chagrin.

It was time to reengage with my passion for design and working with people to strengthen their relationship between the environment and their communities. In 2009, I founded TerraNoble Design to pursue this passion. To further my credentials I applied and was accepted into the Master Gardeners program in September 2010, a joint endeavor of Rutgers University and the Master Gardeners of Essex County. Between September 2010 and May 2011, I completed 132 contact hours of training and education in a wide range of agricultural, botanical, entomological, and horticultural topics (see accompanying lecture schedule). In addition to the classroom time I have been engaged in more than 100 hours of volunteer activity as part of the coursework.

In fulfilling the volunteer requirements I approached HOME Corp, Montclair's Community Development Corporation about developing a community garden to further their goal of promoting healthy lifestyles and reducing obesity. In 2010 I worked with more than 100 community volunteers to create Dorothy's Garden on Miller Street in Montclair (see attached project description and photographs). A cadre of high school students, church groups, and residents worked under my direction to construct compost bins, picnic tables, an arbor, repair fencing and prepare and plant raised beds for vegetable gardening. Now in our second year the garden has been expanded and continues to provide a setting for gardening and education.

With the success of Dorothy's Garden, I started the Miller Street Community Farm across the street with the support of the Montclair Health Foundation and United Way of Essex County. With these organizations grant funding I have been able to launch the urban farm as part of Reverend Allen Shelton's Trinity Presbyterian Church Youth Entrepreneur Program. Five high school students from Montclair and Orange will work with me and the Reverend to learn about farming, care for the farm (see accompanying photographs) and operate and manage a Farm Stand in Glenfield Park this summer. The program is designed to teach young people about entrepreneurialism and the ways in which they can help build a caring and just community while at the same time developing business and interpersonal skills. As the season moves forward we will be building the infrastructure, similar to Dorothy's Garden, necessary to successfully support the farming operation.

As a Landscape Architect, Urban Designer, and Master Gardener I have long been passionate about working with communities to develop sustainable neighborhoods. My mission, with TerraNoble Design as the platform, is to "Regenerate Community and Natural Systems" to reinforce the relationship between people, their community, and nature. Throughout my 30-year career I have sought to be an advocate for positive change and feel that now I have found the platform, unfettered by corporate requirements, to fulfill this mission. Approaching the two year anniversary of the founding of TerraNoble Design I can affirm that I have never felt so passionate about my work, nor more engaged in working with community residents to affect positive change. This is the most important and fulfilling work I have been engaged in and look forward to pursuing it for years to come.

Class of 2011 Master Gardener Lecture Schedule
 Class begins at 10 AM, Wednesdays at Roseland

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| September | 15: | Welcome Breakfast and Introduction to RCE and MG programs
Jan Zientek, RCE of Essex County and MGs of Essex County | |
| | | Introduction to Botany —Jan Zientek, RCE of Essex County | |
| | 22: | Introduction to Soil – Dr. Stephanie Murphy, Rutgers Soil Lab | |
| | 29: | Plant Identification – Steve Schuckman, First Mountain Arboriculture LLC | |
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| October | 6: | Earthwise Lawn Care, Bill Hlubik, RCE of Middlesex County | |
| | 13: | Community Gardens – Jan Zientek, RCE of Essex County | |
| | 20: | Composting – Gray Russell, Montclair Environmental Coordinator | |
| | 27: | Pruning – Nancy Critchley, Landscaper and Essex MG | |
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| November | 3: | Insect ID – Sabrina Tirpak, Rutgers Plant Diagnostic Lab | |
| | 10: | Horticultural Therapy—People, Plants & Tools – Pat Czarnecki, GreEn'ergy, LLC | |
| | 17: | Introduction to Plant Propagation - Nicki Graf, SEBS Horticulturalist
<i>Field Trip: Cook Campus, New Brunswick</i> | |
| | 24: | Holiday Break | |
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| December: | 1: | Plant Nutrition—Bill Bamka, RCE Burlington County | |
| | 8: | Fruit Trees – Bill Tietjen | |
| | 15: | Midterm Exam | |
| | 22: | Holiday Break | |
| | 29: | Holiday Break | |
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| January | 5: | Master Gardener Helpline – Sandy Held, and Jan Zientek | |
| | 12: | Basics of Organic Gardening – Jan Zientek, RCE Essex County - <i>class canceled. snow</i> | |
| | 19: | Diseases and Pests of Vegetables – Peter Nitzsche, RCE Morris County | |
| | 26: | Wildlife Issues in New Jersey:—Elaine Barbour, RCE Passaic County - <i>class canceled. snow</i> | |
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| February | 2: | Integrated Pest Management—Madeline Flahive-DiNardo, RCE of Union County <i>class canceled. snow</i> | |
| | 9: | Landscape Design – Jan Traynor, County College of Morris <i>(Elaine Barbour) snow</i> | |
| | 16: | <i>couldn't make it</i> | |
| | 23: | Plant Material for Landscape—Brian Oleksak, RCE of Sussex County | |
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| March | 2: | Weeds and Invasive Plants – Bruce Barbour, RCE Resource Management Agent | |
| | 9: | Broad Leafed Shrubs and a Plant Sale—Steven Kristoph, Rhododendron Specialist, Steven Kristoph Nurseries | |
| | 16: | Household and Structural Pests – Sabrina Tirpak, Rutgers Plant Diagnostic Lab | |
| | 23: | Plants Native to New Jersey—Kathy Salisbury, Essex County Horticulturalist | |
| | 30: | Plant Pathology – Rick Buckley, Director Rutgers Plant Diagnostic Lab
<i>Field Trip: Rutgers Plant Diagnostic Laboratory, New Brunswick</i> | |
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| April | 6: | Fruits and Berries—Gary Pavlis, Ph.D., RCE Atlantic County | |
| | 13: | Container Gardening – Joan Kram, Horticulturalist | |
| | 20: | Safe and Effective Use of Pesticides – Patricia Hastings, RCE Pest Mgmt. Office | |
| | 27: | The Basics of Flower Gardening - Barb Bromley, RCE Horticulturalist of Mercer County --Road trip to location on Cook Campus | |



Dorothy's Community Garden
Montclair, New Jersey
Client: HOME Corp, Inc.

TerraNoble Design, P.A. is working with HOME Corp to revitalize the Miller Street Community Garden. HOME Corp is a community-based non-profit organization formed in 1988 by concerned residents and religious institutions to improve and develop housing in Montclair. Its mission is to provide safe, permanent affordable housing and to promote community development. One example of the impact HOME Corp has made is the transformation of the Miller Street Historic District where 100 percent of the



As part of the neighborhood revitalization HOME Corp purchased property for a community garden in 1989. Tennant and community garden manager Dorothy Clark managed the 9-plot garden until her death in 2,000. TerraNoble Design is working with HOME Corp to reinvigorate the garden by managing a community design workshop and directing community and corporate volunteers. Workshops will be held in April to prepare a concept master plan for the garden. 88 Montclair High School students will be participating in a Spring clean-up and a garden enhancement project in early May.

In addition to conditioning the soil with compost and planting, the students will participate in gate and arbor construction, building a scarecrow and various art projects including painting rain barrels.

- Community vegetable garden
- Community garden art projects
- Rain water harvesting
- Pro-bono planning & design



**Dorothy's Garden Construction
Day:
Montclair High School Community
Government Institute Students
June 2010**



**Miller Street Community
Farm: Keller & Williams
Corporate Service Day,
Montclair H.S. Students and
Trinity Youth Entrepreneurs**