

The Edible Classroom

Victorian School Gardens Conference

Friday, November 11, 2005

Collingwood College



- ❖ Thinking of developing a school gardening program?
- ❖ Interested in ways to enhance an existing garden?
- ❖ Looking for inspiration, application and tales from people in the know?
- ❖ Ever wondered why everyone is talking about growing vegetables with students?

This is the conference for you!

Why Edible School Gardens?

Many schools in Australia have already discovered the joy and learning potential of an edible school garden. Through growing, harvesting, and eating food from their garden, children discover where food really comes from and learn about the seasonal nature of fruit and vegetables.

Children form a strong connection with nature through physical, hands-on experience and develop life-long practical living and social skills. Not only do edible gardens enhance school grounds, they also offer countless opportunities for community involvement and personal growth.

About the Conference

If you are a teacher, gardener, passionate parent or school principal and your school community is interested in incorporating an outdoor garden education program, then 'The Edible Classroom' is the conference you've been looking for. Experts from across Australia will be on hand to help and inspire you to get a garden program up and running, look at the nuts and bolts of landscaping your grounds with edible plants and inspire you to greater gardening heights alongside your students.

The conference will be held at Collingwood College, home of Stephanie Alexander's famous Kitchen Garden. Hear inspirational stories and receive practical advice from Victoria's leading practitioners of school gardening programs – from schools with gardens big and small, established and just beginning.

You will also have the opportunity to participate in two of the following workshops:

- ❖ Incorporating Food – Eating Your Garden
- ❖ Gardening for Students with Special Needs
- ❖ Community-Attracting Gardens – Finding Support and Volunteers
- ❖ Landscape Contractors and Schools – Building Relationships
- ❖ Activity-Sharing – Curriculum Development and Resources
- ❖ Curriculum Linked Activities from the LandLearn Team

A delicious organic lunch will be provided in the Kitchen Garden, with the opportunity to have a look around the Collingwood College Kitchen Garden.

Saturday Garden Tour ~ 12th November (Optional)

An opportunity to tour two established edible school gardens in suburban Melbourne. Transport will be available from Collingwood College, leaving promptly at 9:15AM and returning no later than 1:30PM. Alternatively you may choose to provide your own transport. Please indicate your desire to attend, and transport needs, on the registration form.

For more information contact:

edibleclassroom@cultivatingcommunity.org.au

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www.cultivatingcommunity.org.au

Conference Program ~ Friday 11th November

| Time | Session | Presenter |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:30 | REGISTRATION | |
| 9:00 | <i>Welcome</i> <i>Stories from the garden</i> | Basil Natoli Collingwood College Kids |
| 9:10 | <i>Keynote Address</i> | Stephanie Alexander Jude Fanton, Seed Savers Network |
| 10:00 | <i>Bean Counting</i> <i>~ How we paid for our garden</i> <i>Stories from the garden</i> | Doug Conway, King's Park P.S. Ben Neil, Cultivating Community Kay Edwards, Parkhill P.S. King's Park Primary Kids |
| 10:45 | MORNING TEA | |
| 11:00 | <i>Preparing The Patch</i> <i>~ How we built our garden</i> | Frida Thornton, Collingwood College Jan Brown, Vermont Special School |
| 12:00 | <i>Looking At Other Models</i> | Helen Widdop-Quinton, Gould League Juneen Schulz, Gippsland |
| 12:50 | LUNCH | Visit the Collingwood College Kitchen Garden |
| 1:30 | <i>The Garden Classroom</i> <i>~ Integrating the curriculum</i> | Leonie Brown, Bentleigh West P.S. Heidi Sanghvi, Collingwood College Megan Floris, Kings Park P.S. |
| 2:30 | <i>Workshop Sessions</i> | Choose one of the six workshops |
| 3:20 | <i>Workshops Repeated</i> | Choose another of the workshops |
| 4:10 | <i>Plenary Session & Wrap up</i> <i>Stories from the garden</i> | Spensley Street Kids |
| 4:30 | CLOSE | |

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Please indicate your desire to attend, and transport needs, on the registration form.

REGISTRATION

Due by 31st October

Cost: \$60 – Schools, Businesses, Professionals

\$45 – Individuals, Community Organisations

Please make cheque / money order to: **Cultivating Community**

Your Name: _____

Organisation/School: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____ Mob: _____

Email: _____

Dietary Requirements: _____

Please Indicate:

I will attend the Saturday garden tour and require transport

I will attend the Saturday garden tour and will provide my own transport

I won't be attending the Saturday garden tour

Post registration and payment to:

**The Edible Classroom
Cultivating Community
P.O. Box 8
Abbotsford
VIC 3067**

