

## How to Start a Community Garden in the 9<sup>th</sup> Ward<sup>1</sup>

### *NOPI Cornell Neighborhood Ecology Team Primer #2*

- **First, Talk to Your Neighbors and Then Talk to Parkway Partners**

Identify a vacant area and develop a group of interested neighbors. Select a representative to call Parkway Partners' Community Gardens Project at (504) 620-2224 with the addresses of adjacent buildings to the vacant property. Parkway Partners will begin the research necessary to identify the owner and to obtain permission for its use.

- **Second, Meet With Neighbors to Establish Interest**

Schedule a meeting of interested neighbors. Once a commitment to the garden is assured, select a project coordinator to schedule a meeting with a representative of Parkway Partners.



- **Third, Make a Plan**

Once the site is approved, a clean-up day is organized. Next, a garden plan is designed by Parkway Partners in cooperation with the gardeners. Finally, the framing is set in, soil is amended and the garden is planted.



- **Fourth, Remember These Important Components of a Garden**

- Permission to use the land.
- Consensus, commitment and acceptance of responsibility from a group of neighbors.
- Water source.
- Leadership structure and rules for gardeners.
- Understanding that establishing a garden is a slow process, but Parkway Partners is available to coordinate and assist.

To learn more about becoming involved in Community Gardening, please contact Mario Taravella or Joanne Albrecht at (504) 620-2224.

---

<sup>1</sup> Tidball, Keith G., Cornell University, Dept. of City and Regional Planning New Orleans Planning Initiative Workshop CRP 679; A Product of "Mobilizing the Community to Integrate Ecology, Open Space Resources, and Disaster Resistance in a Post-Katrina 9th Ward."



Cornell University

