



Sustainability Committee

Built and Natural Environment Subcommittee
Education Series



Intro

Create a sustainability-focused educational series that empowers the community to protect local resources, make informed decisions, and ensure a sustainable future for the next generation.

- Unique Local Assets - City in a Park, Nature Preserve, Historical Park, Rose Garden, Active Community Garden.
- Ready Made Partners - DFW is full of volunteer organizations with resources and education.
- Built-in Audiences - Variety of events already draw residents, sustainability just needs a seat at the table!

Native Plants & Urban Gardening

Potential Partners

Dallas County Master Gardeners Association (DCMGA)

North Texas Master Naturalists Association (NTMNA)

Native Plant Society of Texas (Dallas Chapter)

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services - Dallas Office

- **Potential Sessions:** Native plant landscaping, backyard vegetable gardens, water-wise gardening, composting basics, soil health, urban (container) farming.

Opportunities

- Host a “Day in the Garden” event at the Rose Garden. Invite Texas Master Gardener to hold a pollinator or bird discovery “Trunk Show.”
- Put the “Bloom” in the Bloomin’ Bluegrass festival - have a “Grow Native” wildflower station/table.
- Co-host a native plants sale with the Native Plant Society.
- Better Branding - Create a signature “City in a Park” day where we highlight sustainability and natural environment that FB has.

Wildlife & Natural Resources

Potential Partners

North Texas Master Naturalists (NTMN)

Greenspace Dallas

Sierra Club

- **Potential Sessions:** Bird identification and migration, living alongside urban wildlife, native pollinators and monarch conservation, Blackland Prairie ecology.
- **Topics:** pollinators, the Blackland Prairie, mammals, birds, forests, and wetlands.

Opportunities

- Coordinate with the Library to hold an open education session on a suggested topic.
- Work with NTMN to promote their guided bird/nature walks at the John Burke Preserve. (3rd Thrus.)
- Partner with Greenspace for a creek clean-up day.
- Encourage community members to join the iNaturalist Project at John Burke.

Water Quality & Watershed Health

Potential Partners

North Texas Master Naturalists (NTMN)

Texas Stream Team

- **Potential Sessions:** How stormwater pollution works, protecting local creeks and lakes, wetland ecosystems, citizen water monitoring.

Opportunities

- Encourage community members to join the “Texas Stream Team.”
- Create a Storm Drain Marking Volunteer program (Similar to Richardson, Dallas).
- Table at Fishin’ Fun event for a “What’s in our Creek” water quality demo or provide testing sample kits.
- NTMN wetlands “Trunk Show.”
- Create a rebate program for sustainable landscaping (i.e., turf to native grass, xeriscape yard, etc.)

Waste Reduction, Composting & Food Systems

Potential Partners

USDA NRCS Urban Office (Downtown Dallas)

Manske Library

- **Potential Sessions:** Home composting and vermicomposting, reducing food waste, urban farming basics, connecting to local food systems.

Opportunities

- Work with the library to hold a recycled items craft workshop for youth.
- Create a 'zero-waste' challenge; encourage signups at the Shredding and Hazardous Waste events.
- Register the Community Garden with USDA's "People's Garden" initiative.
- Host a "Repair Cafe" (skilled volunteers help resident fix broken household items).
- Work with the library to create home compost "starter kits."