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**Subject:** Put A Little Green In Your Life, Vol. 1, #6 - June 2010  
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VOLUME 1, NUMBER 6



### Thank You!

Special thanks to Scott Long, CEO of Green Hills Community Action agency and the Board of Directors for approving these projects!

Job creation & self-sufficiency are crucial!

### Quick Tip

- Beat phantom load!  
Unplug cell phone chargers, coffeemakers, televisions, and

## Free, Healthy Food Available

With spring in full swing, area residents will soon have an opportunity to get free, healthy food if they participate in the Grundy County Community Garden Project which is being managed by Terri Henderson, Energy Services Director at Green Hills Community Action Agency.

The First Christian Church of Trenton has leased land to GHCAA for \$1 per year for the site which is located at Harris and 18<sup>th</sup> Streets just north of the Grundy County Food Pantry. Three persons have been hired to oversee the project. Michelle Johnson, long time community volunteer, has been hired as Community Garden Site Manager. Kimberly Wagner and Craig Latham have also been hired to manage the local effort.

The garden will be closely connected to the Grundy County Food Pantry due to close proximity to the pantry, serving many of the same clients, and having similar missions which involve feeding people healthy foods. The garden committee is very appreciative to the First Christian Church Board in their on-going support of both the food pantry, as well as the garden project.

There are no income restrictions on this project. All members of the public, service organizations, 4H Clubs, FFA Chapters, school organizations, FCCLA chapters, churches, and businesses are encouraged to participate. Anyone falling within 200% or below of federal poverty guidelines will be furnished with free garden seeds, a free hoe, soil amendments, and educational classes and materials. Anyone above 200% of Federal Poverty guidelines may purchase

computers when not in use. These appliances consume small amounts of power even when you're not using them! Over time, this can add up on your utility bill!

### **Check out Freecycle**

Everyone has at least a few items that they don't really want but can't bear to throw away. Freecycle it. Freecycling is giving something to someone who will use it -- for free -- instead of throwing it in the garbage. (To find or start a local group, visit [freecycle.org](http://freecycle.org)). It's simple: post a message on your local Freecycle group's web site, decide who will get your item, then arrange a pick up time. Members give and get everything from moving boxes to cabinetry.

### **Plant a Tree & Save!**

Planting deciduous trees -- those that lose their leaves every year -- on the south, east or west sides of your house will lower your heating and cooling bills. The trees will shade the house from the sun in summer and then let in light to warm the house in winter. Well-placed trees can save you \$100 to \$250 a year in energy costs, according to the Alliance to Save Energy. The cost to plant the trees varies by type and size.

seeds in bulk at a reduced cost. A garden tiller will be on site that may be used by all gardeners.



Anyone wishing to sponsor a family on an annual basis may do so by sending \$150 to GHCAA, attn: Terri Henderson, P.O. Box 278, Trenton, MO 64683. The annual sponsorships are tax deductible and should be notated on the memo: Community Garden Grundy Co.

So far, over 100 persons have signed up to participate in the garden project. Currently, the garden committee is seeking individuals who are willing to serve as mentors, class facilitators on subjects of planting, canning, freezing, and general nutritional information. Anyone willing to speak at a class is encouraged to contact Michelle Johnson at 660-789-2271 or Terri Henderson at 660-359-3907.

Persons wishing to sign up for a garden plot were asked to attend a "Watch Your Garden Grow Kick-Off Meeting" to be held on Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm at the Grundy County Food Pantry.

Any excess produce will be marketed through the Energy Services website which is [www.putalittlegreeninyourlife.com](http://www.putalittlegreeninyourlife.com) or through farmer's markets. Gardeners will receive free marketing support if they wish to sell excess produce. The food pantry will be the recipient of produce grown on the site as well.

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