



WEI 2015 NEWSLETTER

From WEI's Executive Director, Karen Clark

WOMEN'S ENVIRONMENTAL INSTITUTE AT AMADOR HILL

A place to renew, learn, and organize for environmental justice.

An environmental research, renewal and retreat center designed to create and share knowledge about environmental issues and policies relevant to women, children and communities overcoming environmental injustice; to promote organic and sustainable agriculture and skill building; and to promote activism that influences public policy and social change.

WEI is a Partner Farm with:



The Good Acre



Hungry Turtle Farmers Coop



North Circle Project



The Food Group

A YEAR OF GROWTH & CHANGE

The Women's Environmental Institute (WEI) is completing 2015 and is grateful for the many contributions of our staff (urban and rural farmers, community organizers, researchers, administrators), WEI board members, interns, teacher affiliates, generous donors and volunteers who've contributed thousands of hours. **Thank You!**

2015 has been a year of growth and change as WEI moved ahead with deeper investment in organic farming education and training initiatives, disparity research, and community organizing projects that **exemplify our environmental and agricultural justice mission** and that support WEI's unique commitment to **uniting racially/culturally diverse urban and rural environmental/food justice partnerships.**

Milestones in 2015

In year four of the **24th St. Urban Farm Coalition**, WEI's partnership with five Phillips Neighborhood based organizations significantly **expanded** the highly successful **Mashkiikii Gitigan (Ojibwe for Medicine Garden)** as an Indigenous-oriented part of the **Phillips Community Healthy Living Project funded by Blue Cross/Blue Shield.** (p.6)

Our East Metro EJEAC research collaboration with the UMN Medical School's Center for Health Disparities Research hired new community-based staff to continue to explore potential toxic exposures for **East Metro Hmong Farmers** and farm re-location options (**supported by a McNeely Foundation grant**). **Expect a press release on research findings in 2016.** (p.4)

WEI also completed another **UMN Center for Health Disparities Research** grant – sponsoring **"Safe Routes to School"** forums and interviews focused on **Phillips Community** and **Little Earth of United Tribes** school children and their families. Video documentary: <https://vimeo.com/146335773>

WEI's Organic Farming 101 course completed its second year led by our own Professor Zita and **WEI's** community-based **Organic Farm School** completed its 7th successful year, held for the first time at **Birchwood Cafe.** (p.3)

As a member of the **Healthy Legacy Steering Committee**, WEI supported strong community advocacy for **toxics reform** and **right-to know** policies, including **GMO labeling.**

WEI's status as MN Growing Power's Regional Outreach Training Center is stronger than ever as collaboration with **Will Allen** and his **Growing Power** team produced our sixth annual farmer training weekend at Amador Hill. Attended by over 100 participants in October 2015, at least **75% were low-income and people of color** for whom WEI raised scholarships. (p.5)

WEI successfully re-launched our **North Circle Project** through a **USDA** funded partnership with Growing Power. An enthusiastic October meeting of local farmers wanting to transition to organic farming and to create a local food hub was led by North Branch **Mayor Kirsten Hagen Kennedy** (p.2)

MN Women, Food and Agriculture Network. WEI continues to be the MNWFAN connection and will be hosting events throughout 2016, bringing women in the food and ag industries together.

Amador Hill Farm Campus Update: The WEI Farm at Amador Hill produced its Year 10 **CSA (Community Supported Agriculture)** including bountiful vegetables in the fields and hoop houses, an excellent apple harvest and greens grown throughout the winter in our **aquaponics unit.** **WEI's first harvest of yellow-perch** were sold to several restaurants who raved about their flavor and uniformity; production will double in 2016! (p.3)

East Phillips Green Zone Urban Farm: WEI is helping coordinate this proposal which may include a **year-round indoor urban farm** (p.4)

WEI's Eco-Retreat Center continues to host organizational and personal retreats, intern housing and family weekend gatherings on the farm. WEI also hosted two **farm weddings** in June, a **new venture** that we hope to expand. (p.8)

WEI participated in the **MN Dept of Ag's Stakeholder Group on Urban Farming**, promoting more equitable investment in urban farming.

Please stay with us in 2016! Join us as **members, volunteers, activists, sustaining donors and investors.** We appreciate your help to keep WEI alive and flourishing! **Thank you!**



Collie Graddick, Karen Clark and MN Dept. of Ag Commissioner Fredrickson joined Rosa Victoria Zamora Chimborazo as she accepted the "Homegrown Hero" award for Christina Elias, Farm Manager at the Mashkiikii Gitigan 24th Street Garden.



North Circle Project

WEI's mission of food, agricultural and environmental justice is exemplified in the rekindling of the North Circle Project, which includes farmers from small-scale/family farms and market gardens in the North Branch and Lindstrom area and throughout Chisago County and surrounding East Central counties.

Why create a network of North Circle farmers? Strange as this may seem, our North Branch area is by and large a food desert with designed vacancies in organic food.

Our grocery store in North Branch is 20-30 or miles away from most country residents; and large scale farmers are mostly growing rotations of corn and soy, not people food; one of the two farmers' markets does not support organic farming; coops carrying organic produce are located in Cambridge and St. Croix Falls-not in North Branch, our local grocery store as a corner of organic produce which is not Minnesota grown. Large farms are on the petro-chemical GMO treadmill, while smaller organic farms are hanging on for dear life.

The aim of WEI's North Circle Project is to promote the health and integrity of our rural communities by providing local, fresh, organic, and affordable produce grown by local North Circle farmers; hence saving the small-scale/family farm, promoting community self-reliance, and healing the rural devastation of land and water through mindful organic farming practices.



North Circle Project Member, Melissa King, speaks at the October meeting held in North Branch, MN



The five-year plan for the North Circle Project aims to create a local food hub to distribute this produce to local consumers, health providers, food-related businesses and other markets in our regional area.

In 2015, WEI's North Circle Project supported this effort with a USDA grant focused on developing farmer networks, farmer education, and coordinated farm planning for the 2016 season.

In October, WEI hosted a 100-person farm-to-fork dinner attended by farmers and community stakeholders to set forth the North Circle Project. This dinner was a highlight event in WEI's year of action.

Top priority in 2015-2016 continues to be the recruitment of new beginning farmers and experienced farmers into NCP and farmer training in organic certification, soil management, food handling, pest and disease identification, cover cropping, deep-winter farming, and biodiversity/cultural-diversity in agri-cultures.

Currently the North Circle Project, numbers over 20 registered farms and producers, is moving forward in tandem with work of the Chisago County Food Charter. Our strategic plan includes a virtual North Circle food hub, will hopefully station the project for a potential brick-and-mortar food hub planning grant in 2016.



WEI Farm & Orchard

By Jacquelyn Zita, Farm Manager and Director of Operations

This year the WEI farm produced high quality fruits and vegetables filling **our 18-week CSA boxes**, which we delivered to 100 shareholders from mid June to late October. This was a year of hard work and success. Many thanks should be extended to our **farm crew** – Melissa King, Marko Sherve, Gina Sapp, Ly Vang, Mao Xiong, Plia Vang Xiong -- our interns, Anika Sampson, Katie Feterl, Leah Enter, Anna Dooley, Zoe Craig and Alea Jeraj, our workshare helpers, Kelly Neider and Kelly Odegard.

We are most thankful to Elly Balmer for her lively CSA newsletters, and both Elly and Jerry Krier for their administrative devotion to making the **CSA** season possible.

WE also appreciate the large number of **volunteers** from St. Kates College, Fish Lake Church, Hamline College, AFSA High School, Lutheran Volunteer Corp and our faithful volunteers at the Mill City Farmers' Market: Hilary Sandall, Lou Ann Foty, Sadie Foty Nancy Vezner, Christine Newby and Kristi Kehrwald.

Another big Thank You goes to Emily Carlson, our **volunteer coordinator**, who put in a lot of behind the scene hours to round up extra hands for the farm and WEI events.

It takes a lot of labor to produce our farm and sustain our farmers. This year the farm program took on new direction with the **success our first yellow perch aquaponic farming**. The fingerlings took about eleven months to raise and presented us with our first challenge at winter farming in a hoop house. Diligent wa-



Always a pleasure to have a summer crew at the farm!

ter testing, careful feeding and temperature controls kept our fish growing while also supplying our winter farmers' market trade with fresh greens supported by our aquaponic enclosed eco-system. In October, our yellow perch were featured in the appetizer served at a Hungry Turtle Food Hub dinner celebrating Will Allen and the one year anniversary of the Hungry Turtle Food Hub.

The **aquaponic greens**, which included kale, chard, lettuce, basil and our oyster mushrooms were extraordinary offerings at farmers markets in the deep cold of winter. This coming year we will be expanding our yellow perch project to over 2000 fish.

The WEI farm campus provides a seasonal heartbeat for offering various ways for us to grow farmers as we grow produce. This coming summer (2016) we are advancing a **new strategy with three farm co-managers**, Jacquelyn Zita (primary farm manager), with Belinda Olson, Melissa King and Ly Vang as co-managers, and one full-time farm apprentice, along with 2-3 students in our **new farmer training program**. Farm related education will include a **new Farmer-for-a-Day Program for youth**, Organic Farm School (a ten-week summer lecture series), **Organic Farming 101** (February-March), **Farmer Tune Up workshops** and classes for visitors at the farm. Along with the Picnic Operetta at the farm (scheduled for August 14), our 2016 expansion projects will include our **premiere opening of evening Pizza at the Farm** and potentially a **Ghandi Mahal Fork-to-Farm country dinner** at WEI.



A typical mid-season CSA box of WEI's certified organic produce

Order your 2016 CSA at w-e-i.org!



Tou Yang, of East Metro EJEAC, collaborating with the research team interviewers and Professors Simcik and Fredrickson

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE EDUCATION & ADVOCACY COLLABORATIVES (EJEACs)

East Metro EJEAC: WEI's East Metro collaboration with the **UMN Medical School's Center for Health Disparities Research** hired Tou Yang as our coordinator/community organizer, plus five new community-based staff to conduct health surveys with Hmong farmers who are being **exposed to toxic contaminants** on their rented farm land in East Metro suburbs. This research was completed this December. We'll hold a **community forum** to report results and determine next steps in early 2016. Meanwhile, supported by a **McNeely Grant**, the project is also focusing on potential **farm re-location options** on St. Paul's East Side, where many of these farmers live and want to learn organic farming practices that include soil remediation, raised beds, and composting. Expect media on our research in early 2016.

Phillips Neighborhood/Little Earth EJEAC: WEI was invited to receive another **UMN Center for Health Disparities** grant - to sponsor a "Safe Routes to School" initiatives focused on Phillips Community and Little Earth of United Tribes school children and their families. Felicia Wesaw, our community organizer/coordinator led the project. The center formally analyzed our documentation of the community's concerns about health and educational disparities related to pervasive bullying and violence to children riding the school bus and at bus stops. **Recommendations:** MPS should change existing policy and hire well trained, culturally appropriate bus monitors, both for on the bus and at bus stops. WEI produced a **video documentary** with Migizi Communications and Joseph Loeffler (<https://vimeo.com/146335773>). Meetings with the Minneapolis School Board and their staff have begun in order to seek the needed policy changes.

East Phillips Green Zone Urban Farm: WEI is helping coordinate this proposal, which includes a **year-round indoor urban farm** to provide good jobs/job training and access to safe, healthy food for Phillips residents, while also working to **curtail current industrial polluters** in this neighborhood. Little Earth, EPIC, Tamales y Bicicletas, Council Member Cano, and many neighbors are strong proponents.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP US GROW

WEI MEMBERSHIP

Become a member or renew your WEI membership \$50 Single/\$75 Double/\$150 Organizational Go to our website and click on Membership to view member benefits. Sustaining members are especially helpful in supporting our ongoing operational costs.

RESERVE WEI's RETREAT CENTER

Relax at beautiful Amador Hill, do a bit of writing/reading in the peace & quiet of the rural countryside. Reserve a bedroom or the whole facility for a week night or weekend getaway. Staff retreat rentals and more at w-e-i.org
Membership is required for all rentals
Call 651-583-0705 for reservations.

BUY A 2016 CSA SHARE

Purchase a CSA share for 18 weeks of fresh organically certified produce and optional value-added products delivered to a drop-site near you, direct from the WEI farm. Payment plans are available for a 3/4 or half box.

ATTEND A WORKSHOP, CLASS OR TRAINING

WEI provides on-going educational workshops on environmental justice, sustainable farming and other related topics. Register for Organic Farming 101 and other education classes offered. Give a gift of a tax deductible donation towards a scholarship; giving a unique opportunity for others to be able to attend.

GIVE A TAX DEDUCTIBLE GIFT

Go to w-e-i.org and click on the **RED DONATE** button or send a check to:

WEI, PO Box 128, North Branch, MN 55056
If contributing in your Workplace Giving Campaign through the Minnesota Environmental Fund, select WEI in the organization options.

GIVE YOUR TIME ~ VOLUNTEER

Consider volunteering to help support and contribute to our mission. Various opportunities and various locations.

Contact our office by email at wei@w-e-i.org

We look forward to seeing you!



WEI's SIXTH ANNUAL GROWING POWER TRAINING WEEKEND

Attended by more than 100 participants, this year's Growing Power Weekend Training at WEI addressed the theme of Deep Winter Farming and Scaling Up for the Good Food Revolution. The weekend featured all of Growing Power's signature workshops - mushroom growing, microgreen production, hoop house/aquaponic construction, hoop house winter farming strategies, and the not-to-be-forgotten Will Allen compost and vermiculture experimental workshop. This year included new workshops on Deep Winter Farming with Carol Ford from Garden Goddess Enterprises, who is well known in Minnesota for her leadership in Deep Winter Farming and her passive solar greenhouse in Milan, Minnesota. Another addition this year was a workshop on solarizing the farm, which included a presentation on Walipini underground pit greenhouses. Walipini (an Aymara Indian word for a "place of warmth") greenhouses, along with Carol Ford's passive solar greenhouse design, offer small-scale, innovative and affordable options - in addition to Will Allen's compost heated hoop houses, for those who love the challenge of nearly "outdoor" winter farming. The gift of this year's Growing Power is that 75% of the participants who might not have been able financially to attend this training were supported by scholarships provided by our donors. We thank all of you who made this possible. Many thanks also for the solo singing and country cuisine provided by our local North Branch caterer, Ekstrom Catering and for Eureka Recycling's volunteer, Chris Gray, who kept us on a zero-waste track from start to finish.

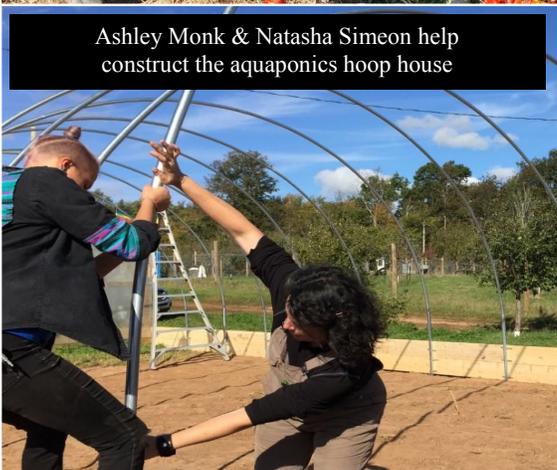
Gratitude goes out to other volunteers: Board Members Tiffany Enriquez & Jen Kader, Katie Feterl, Natasha Simeon, Gene Olson, Brad Blackett, LuAnn Foty, Winnie Zwick, Abby Cox, Jonie Lager, Farhio Khalif, Zoey McBrayer, Steve Erdman, Zoe Craig, Leah Enter, Jesse Womak, Mary O'Reily, Lexie Simeon, Karen Joy Clark, Jacquelyn Zita, and Hilary Sandall - who made the event run smoothly and joyfully, along with the tireless work of our WEI staff, Emily Carlson, Elly Balmer and Jerry Krier.



Will Allen leads the hands-on compost workshop



Carol Ford instructs Deep Winter Farming techniques



Ashley Monk & Natasha Simeon help construct the aquaponics hoop house



Erika Allen helping North Circle Farmers brainstorm a local food hub strategy



MASHKIIKII GITIGAN (MEDICINE GARDEN), 24TH ST COMMUNITY URBAN FARM

24th St Coalition : Active Members: Women's Environmental Institute, Indian Health Board, Native American Community Clinic, Ventura Village Neighborhood Association, Waite House. Supporting Members: Indigenous People's Task Force, Dream of Wild Health, and UMN SNAP Ed.

Mission: "The 24th St. Urban Farm Coalition works to create and nurture the culture and practice of local food production, healthy eating, healthy living and related activities along the 24th St. Wellness Corridor and throughout the Phillips Community."

Origins and Staff: Mashkiikii Gitigan (Ojibwe for Medicine Garden) was created in 2012 by the **24th St. Urban Farm Coalition** (a group of 6 community organizations and residents) to address the food justice needs of people living in South Minneapolis' Phillips Community who face severe challenges accessing fresh, healthy foods. IHB contributed the farm site and it was improved with compost and clean soil. In 2013 the farm project was chosen to be part of "Phillips Health Living Initiative," funded by **Blue Cross/Blue Shield** to hire staff and increase project capacity— **Christina Elias** as the **lead farmer/coordinator** and **Annelie Livingston-Anderson** as the **administrative coordinator**.

In 2015, with a business plan in place and additional funding from **Ventura Village**, Mashkiikii Gitigan tripled its space by adding the nearby JuJu garden site, donated by **American Indian Development Corporation** and we hired **Rosa Victoria Zamora Chimborazo** as **farm assistant**, an experienced Indigenous farmer., plus several interns.



(above) Rosa Zamora Chimborazo, Mashkiikii Gitigan's Farm Assistant, sold farm produce at the on-site Karma Market.

Community: The Mashkiikii Gitigan is now established in the neighborhood as a safe space: a welcoming healthy, creative and abundant urban farm where community and local workers gather for classes, enjoy an outdoor meal, help farm, and get starter plants, seeds or advice. Residents assist with the Karma Market as well as relax and participate in events and provide **essential community input**. View Community Partnerships video at <https://vimeo.com/143062926>

Farm Production and Food Distribution: Mashkiikii Gitigan has a growing local, national and even international reputation as a successful, Native American Indigenous based Urban Farm. It organically grows over 80 varieties of fruits vegetables, herbs, mushrooms and flowers including heritage and Native American medicinal plants. In 2015 the Mashkiikii established itself as a professional and consistent organic vendor at **The Four Sisters Market** on Franklin Ave. Mashkiikii's **innovative "Karma Market"** completed it's second year and added an on-site garden space. Students from Mashkiikii's "Grow Your Own" weekly classes, clinic patients, and neighbors came regularly to purchase healthy organic produce **in exchange for a free-will donation**. Often food was harvested straight from the garden according to their requests, including corn husks for tamale production! New developments included direct produce sales to Waite House's community chef. High quality organic produce is also consistently shared with interns, neighbors and students as well as used in Mashkiikii's numerous community events.

Education: "**Grow Your Own**" curriculum was taught weekly from May-October. Returning students participated plus many new students from the local community, Native clinics and other urban neighborhoods. The "**Good Nature 4H Garden Club**" for youth also continued. This 2015 season Mashkiikii added a two-day "**Seed Keeping Workshop**" presented by **Upper Midwest Indigenous Seed Keepers' Network**. A stimulating advanced class was taught by **Nance Klehm**, internationally respected ecological systems designer, as a collaboration project on bioremediation., resulting in new students, new bio-remediated beds, mushroom beds, crop covers, and new compost heaps. Another popular addition was the **Native Herbal Medicine class** taught by **Doreen Day** using Native traditions, in which students were able to use herbs and medicinal plants from the farm to create their own herbal remedies.

Numerous educational tours were requested and given including: American Public Gardens Assoc., London Freedom Seedbank, MN House Agriculture Cmte., Higher Education Consortium for Urban Affairs, Augsburg College, and Gandhi Mahal Restaurant.



(above) 4H Garden Club at Mashkiikii Gitigan Urban Farm



WEI Board of Directors



Hattie Bonds, Board Member, is a retired public school administrator, a former Science teacher and community member who has served on many boards dealing with Social Justice, Human Rights and Diversity. She is one of the founding members of EJAM, The Environmental Justice Advocates of Minnesota, and has served as president of The Minnesota Alliance of Black School Educators and president of the Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals Hennepin Division. She is also developing a non profit, Women United to support women in their life goals.



Robert Lilligren, Board Member, has served as President and CEO of Little Earth of United Tribes in South Minneapolis since October, 2014. An enrolled member of the White Earth Band of Ojibwe, Robert is a 33- year resident of the Phillips Area in South Minneapolis, and a year 'round bike commuter.

Robert served for 12 years as the V. President of the Minneapolis City Council. While on the Council Robert was a tireless advocate for the American Indian Community, LGBT Community, and other historically disenfranchised people. He is a landlord, co-owning housing units on the block where he lives, a personal financial commitment that helped revitalize a once crime-ridden area. He is active on the board of various organizations including Native American Community Development Institute (chair), the Women's Environmental Institute, and Lutheran Social Service.



Tiffany Enriquez, Board Member, earned her B.A. in Art for Social Justice from the U of M and worked 10 years in experiential education with ages ranging from preschool to college, including two years as a co-teacher in Metro Urban Studies at HECUA and as an environmental justice educator for a local nonprofit. She currently works at Achieve Mpls, the strategic non-profit partner of Minneapolis Public Schools where she coordinates Career and College readiness efforts at Roosevelt High School. Tiffany has two young children who keep her on her toes from sunup to sundown and for whom she works relentlessly to improve educational outcomes for MN youth.



Maria Regan Gonzalez, Co-Chair, Maria is a Richfield community member and health equity advocate. She graduated from the University of Minnesota with a Bachelor of Arts in Global Studies and Spanish Studies and is currently studying to receive her Master's in Public Health at the U of M. Maria works as a Health Equity Program Manager at the Blue Cross Blue Shield Center for Prevention. Over the years, she has collaborated with numerous communities on work spanning local and international food systems and has been involved in various facets of improving community health from providing direct education to supporting policy change. She is passionate about equity, food justice and the connection between identity, health, and food. She enjoys camping, backpacking, Latin jazz, and practicing yoga.



Collie Graddick, Board Member, is an Agricultural Consultant with the MN Department of Agriculture (MDA) managing the MDA/ US Environmental Protection Agency's Urban Pesticide Educational Initiative program. Collie has worked with MDA for 20 years. Collie earned a BS in Plant Science from Fort Valley State College in Georgia and an MS in Plant and Soil Science from Tuskegee University in Alabama. Collie is active in Afro-Eco and networks with numerous farm justice organizations.



Jen Kader, Co-Chair, currently serves as the Program Manager for Freshwater Society where she works with local communities to build their capacity to address water resource issues through trainings, education, and facilitation. Her professional background has jointly been in community organizing and environmental sustainability, and includes a stint at WEI as the 2010 Apple Intern. She received her BA in International Relations from Wartburg College in Waverly, IA, as well as a certificate in Community-Based Development from Colorado State University. Currently, Jen is pursuing her Masters of Urban and Regional Planning from the Humphrey School for Public Affairs with a concentration in Sustainability and Resiliency. Jen is chair of the Water Subcommittee for the City of Minneapolis's Community Environmental Advisory Commission (where she represents WEI). She is a 2013 graduate of the Freshwater Society's Master Water Steward program. She also served on the Technical and Community Advisory Committee for the Nicollet-Central Transit Alternatives study from 2012-2013. Jen is an avid cyclist, urban gardener, and strong local foods proponent concerned about environmental justice and climate change.



Elizabeth Kerwin, Board Member, is a Sister of St. Joseph and part of the Leadership Team of Loyola Spirituality Center where she has done spiritual companionship, retreats, and workshops for more than thirty years. Prior to forming the leadership team, Liz was the Director of the Spirituality Center for eighteen years. She is a founding member and continues on the Earth Partners working group of the commission. Liz is a gardener, singer, cook, and reader and is passionate about the care of the earth and the health of all that lives on the earth.



Becky Lourey, Board Member (on leave), is a retired Minnesota Senator now working as a farmer, writer, and small business owner. Senator Lourey provided 16 years of leadership in the Minnesota House and Senate, where she was an effective champion for numerous economic and social justice issues including affordable health care, sustainable agriculture, civil rights for all, disability issues, affordable housing, Native American rights, and the environment. The mother of 12 children, she is known for her articulate grasp of many issues and her ability to forge alliances with diverse groups.



Nancy Hylden, Treasurer, joined the WEI Board in July, 2011. In addition to being an organic foodie, she is an avid runner and an enthusiastic amateur artist. Nancy also practices law and government relations in Minneapolis.



Board Members: Hattie, Becky, Tiffany, Maria, Collie, Jen, and Robert at WEI's Amador Hill Retreat Center.

Organic Weddings

What You Get

Book Your Wedding At WEI

The options are unbound! A beautiful spring wedding under apple blossoms, an early summer wedding with the farm fields greening with young seedlings, a summer wedding with flowers, fields deep in vegetation, and soft summer nights or a fall wedding with orchard trees heavy with sweet fruit and the colors of autumn trees lit for glory. Enjoy a winter getaway warmed by the fireplace while the snow lightly falls outside over the orchard.



In 2015 WEI hosted two weddings on our beautiful Amador Hill Farm. We look forward to hosting more "organic weddings" at the farm.

Wedding Rentals include full use of the WEI facility, overnight rooms for special family and friends, expansive vistas of farm fields and rolling apple orchard, a wedding flower garden (often used for ceremony), separate spaces for wedding events, a large orchard field for tent and table set up, a platform for a band, musicians, poets or officiants, ample parking, well kept grounds, a wedding garden, plus fresh organic produce, sustainable values, clean air and water and so much more!

Contact Elly at 651-583-0705 or email: elly@w-e-i.org

Women's Environmental Institute

a place to renew, learn and organize for environmental justice

P.O. Box 128
North Branch, MN 55056
651-583-0705
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www.w-e-i.org

WEI is a proud member of
MEF's workplace giving campaign
To donate go to: mnenvirofund.org



THANK YOU for the generous support of our volunteers as well as individual and organizational allies.

2015 Donors: Sisters of St Joseph of Carondelet, Minnesota Environmental Fund, University of Minnesota, U of Wisc, Hamline University, Seward Coop, Branch Landscaping, Linden Hills Coop, Tanka Bars, Organic Valley, Coastal Sea Foods, CURA-UofM, Eureka Recycling, Midtown Global Market, Ventura Village, Ekstrom Catering, Birchwood Café, North Circle Farmers, United States Department of Agriculture, Whole Foods-Duluth, Waite House, White Earth Organic Wild Rice, Dangerous Man Brewery, Hope Community, Minneapolis Health Department, Little Earth of United Tribes, Hungry Turtle Coop, Peace Coffee, Wells Fargo, Innovative Power Systems, County Market, Gandhi Mahal, Growing Power Inc, Still Ain't Satisfied, Indian Health Board, Native American Community Development Institute, Faegre Baker Daniels Foundation, Native American Community Clinic, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Indigenous People's Task Force, White Earth Land Recovery Project, Barbra Wiener, Commissioner Peter McLaughlin, Doreen Day, Karen Clark, Hilary Sandall, Jacquelyn Zita, Jen and Justin Kader, Sarah Bailey, Scott Reynolds, Nancy Johnson, Katie Feterl, Shannon Selz, Britney Fryer, Ann Fredrickson, Christine Fullerton, Charlie and Aimee Prasek, Todd Martenson, Shay Berkowitz, Pat Farrell, Marit Solheim-Witt, Robert Lilligren, Mark LaChapelle, Ashley Monk, Judy Sorenson, Marilyn Habermas-Scher, Phyllis Wiener, Bonnie Russ, Kirsten Perry, Sharon Pikula, Allison Current, Karen Svien, Jennifer Kahn, Kirsten Kennedy-Hagen, Carolyn Burnoski, Balmer Family, Raymond Sandstrom, Rebecca Lourey, Naomi Scheman, Liz Kerwin, Usha Rao, Will Allen, Collie Graddick, Tiffany Enriquez, Nancy Hylden, Maria Regan Gonzalez, Abby Young, Aisha Spiers, Margery Kelly, Carol & Brad Pass, Carlos Zighre, Donald Davies, Emily Moore, Kale Fahjardo, Raymond Dehn, Rishona Selena Millard Dernell, Terese Pritschett, Winnie Zwick, Alan Kent, Amanda Kappes, Amanda Rudolph, Ann Degroot, Claire Stoscheck, Courtney Fairbanks, Darrol & Marty Glanville, Gloria Thurmes, Helen Healy, Janet Dahlem, Jay Kelly, Jean Wagenius, Jill Garcia, John & Teresa Egge, Kahn Brothers, Phyllis Kahn, Katherine Murphy, Lee Roehl, Linda Adkins, Lisa Kane, Carrie Chomicz, Marina Munoz-Lyon, Mary Miller, Michael Neumann, Nancy Jo Gossard, Pamela Colby, Peg Thomas & Steve Lassiter, Phillip and Jennifer Clark, Sharon Day, Steve & Margaret Davidson, Suzi Phillips, Tessa Hill, Dennis Johnson, Vernon Wetternach, Zoe Nicholie, Carolyn Gilbert, Polly Kellogg, Bill Kingsbury, Suzanna Gard, Pam Colby, Ed & Mary Clark, Briah Anson, Kim Wages, Susan Hoffman, Emily Moore, Frank Kroncke, David & Ruth Waterbury, Emily Carlson, Jacqueline White, Marcus Waterbury, Catherine C. Reid, Gary Noreen, Marty Harding, Ann Reed.

2015 Volunteers: Hilary Sandall, Dave Gutknecht, LuAnn Foty, Emily Carlson, Brandon McMichael, Kelly Neider, Kelly Beckwith, Kelly Odegaard, Melissa & Adam King, Hayley Goulet, James Wacek, Astrid Yankosky, Gene Olson, Cindy McAllister, Lisa Kane, Carrie Chomicz, Natasha Simeon, Lexi Simeon, Sharon Pikula, Peyton Ginakes, Joni Lager, Claire Stoscheck, Aaryn Wilson, Martin Brown, Cornelius Green, Tiffany Enriquez, Andrew & Sabrina Gilchrist, Winnie Zinnick, Saddle Giese, Sara Mittlestadt, Tishawn Penny, Karen Weldon, Maria Regan-Gonzalez, Jen Wendland Kader, Emily Moore, Eric Immler, Todd Martenson, Aimee Pramek, Abby Cox, Zoey McBrayer, Steve Erdman, Zoe Craig, Leah Enter, Jesse Womak, Justin Kader, Katie Feterl, Brad Blackett, Courtney Fairbanks, Daniele Brink, David Schatschneider, Chase Rettinger, Christine Newby, Ashley Monk, Sharri Keller, Nancy Vezner, Kristi Kehrwald, Gina Sapp, Kayla Schiltgen, Eric Elesson, Ted Wind, Lisa Hasselbrock, Kirsten Hagen Kennedy, Jennifer Joy, Annika Sampson, Anna Dooley, Alia Jeraj, Belinda Olson, Frank Knappes, Deirdra Kanzer, Bridgette Kelly, Jordan Pollock, Ginger Hedstrom, Megan Bender, Nancy Victorin-Vangerud, Alex Abraha, Kris Copeland, Aaron Brink, Joni Lager, DeAnna Eckerd, Morgan Burckhardt, Derek and Carrie Miller, Nancy Kriz, Tod Kallerup, Jarett Coulter, Tim Reisdorf, Mark Reisdorf, Lee Choinard, Felicia & Andrew Dally, Jenny Jacques, Mariano Espinosa, Jovita Francisco, Joshua Mendez, Georgina Mendez, Margarito Mendez, Sergio Espinoza, Rosa Francisco, Luz Francisco, Janet Dahlem, Belinda Anderson, Jerry & Kathy Krier, Wayland Olson, Sadie Foty, Guadalupe Martinez, Hattie Bonds, Jacque Zita, Karen Clark, Felicia Wesaw, Hamline University Students, Lutheran Volunteer Corp, AFSA High School Students, Sisters of St. Joseph, Augsburg College Gleaners, Unity of Young Adults, Shir Tikvah Congregation, Infra Marketing and Communications, St. Catherine University Holistic Health Class.

