



**School Gardens and Native Plantings**  
**October 13, 2023**

# Welcome!



Wendy Mohrenweiser  
Chute Educator  
Green STEAM Club Leader



Dana Salazar  
Chute Educator  
Green STEAM Club Leader



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D65 Sustainability  
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Wondering what are your  
experiences gardening at  
home?

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Wondering what are your  
experiences with native  
plantings at home?

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# Benefits of Native Plantings



**Need little maintenance**, once they're established

**Need less water**

**Don't need fertilizers**

**Preserve biodiversity**

**Prevent flooding**: soil & roots absorb rainwater

**Support pollinators**

Native Plants grow naturally in an area in which they evolved. Local animals and insects depend on these plants for food and shelter.

Many of the landscaping plants available in nurseries are alien species from other countries. These outcompete native species and degrade the habitat.

**Native plants** general info

Audubon's **database** to discover native plants in your area and which types of birds they'll attract

# Benefits of School Gardening



## Students learn

- where food comes from
- how to plant, grow and harvest vegetables
- how to prepare healthy meals with what they harvest
- ways to take care of the environment
- gardens can be spaces to decompress and relax
- STEM skills through projects like designing a trellis
- collaboration skills as they work with students of different grade levels and staff

# Benefits of School Gardening



- Student feedback

- Gardens help students learn that food is not from supermarkets
- We learn about plants and how to cook them
- We try new foods because we grew it
- We learn responsibility and have fun





# Monarch Butterfly Garden Planting





# Vegetable Garden



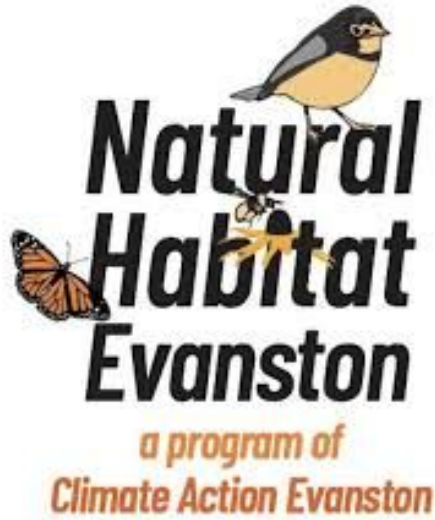
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# Let's Get Outside!

- School Garden (harvest chard & kale)
  - Okano Monarch Butterfly Garden
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# Local Resources



Native Plants and  
Pollinators



Gardening & Volunteering with Edible Evanston and Evanston  
Grows





Learning in Places: Seasonal  
Family Storyline Resources



Join our D65  
Sustainability Efforts!



# Growing our Community: Stay in Touch!

[Click here](#) or Scan QR Code to join one (or more) of our google groups: stay in touch and receive periodic updates.



## D65 School Garden Google Group

Open to all D65 Staff, caregivers, community members involved in our D65 school gardens

[d65-school-garden-community-user-created@district65.net](mailto:d65-school-garden-community-user-created@district65.net)

## D65 Climate Action Google Group

Open to all caregivers, community members

[d65climateactionteams@googlegroups.com](mailto:d65climateactionteams@googlegroups.com)

## D65 Staff Climate Action Google Group

Open to all D65 Staff

[climate-action-d65-staff-user-created@district65.net](mailto:climate-action-d65-staff-user-created@district65.net)

Join us on Oct. 27!

RSVP



SCAN ME



— EVANSTON/SKOKIE SCHOOL DISTRICT 65 —  
**PARENT UNIVERSITY**

## Get Ready for the Sustainability Series!

Learn more about District 65's sustainability efforts

Socialize and light dinner 5:30pm - 6:00pm

Program begins at 6:00pm

Attend one or all sessions, light Dinner and Childcare available

Sign up [here](#)

Date	Topic	Location	Guest Speakers
September 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Lunchroom Composting &amp; Recycling</li><li>What caregivers can do at home</li></ul>	JEH Administrative Building Boardroom 1500 McDaniel Ave	Brian Zimmerman, City of Evanston Solid Waste Coordinator
October 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>School Gardening and Native Plants</li><li>Tour of Butterfly and School Garden</li></ul>	Chute Middle School Cafeteria 1400 Oakton Street	Wendy Mohrenweiser, Chute Green STEAM Club Educator
October 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Outdoor Place Based Family Learning</li></ul>	Dawes Elementary School Library 440 Dodge Ave	D65 Educators and Students  Dr. Shirin Vossoughi and Dr. Megan Bang, Learning in Places

For more information please contact Mireya Dominguez Dominguezm@district65.net



**Thank You / Gracias!**