Welcome to the next TC Metro Growers Network event…

City Grown Produce and the Hennepin-Ramsey Farm Service Agency (FSA) County Committee

Friday, JUNE 10th, Noon to 1:30
Bullthistle Gardens
3044 Minnehaha Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55406
-- Next to Arbeiter Brewing Company --
A FREE event. Live, In-Person! (no zoom link!)
Please get vaccinated if you are not already. Thank You

Urban soil challenges? Considering high a tunnel?
Not sure how to to a work with USDA for a loan or funding?

Join the Conversation!
Share your experiences!

In the heart of So. Minneapolis is a market farm serving the community. Come take a tour!

The US Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Services Agency (FSA) is piloting an urban committee to better serve agriculturists in the Hennepin-Ramsey County region. The new three-person FSA committee is comprised of Metric Giles (Urban Farm & Garden Alliance), David Gray (Bullthistle Gardens), Dennis Vitali (Great Northern Microgreens). USDA staff and Whitney Place, MN FSA Executive Director, invited. Get to know your USDA!

Networking … informal, informative, peer-to-peer learning

www.sfa-mn.org/twin-cities-growers-network

Questions? Contact Network coordinator Karl Hakanson, Agriculture & Natural Resources, U of MN Extension-Hennepin County / khakanso@umn.edu / Photos Bullthistle, Karl Hakanson – v5/31/22
Bullthistle Gardens was started by David Gray and family in 2018 focused on season extension, soil health and water quality. Located on a garden leased through the Minneapolis Garden Lease program, a high tunnel on a parking lot, and, growing indoors at their home. They specialize in salad greens, herbs, tomatoes and microgreens. Plans include using the high tunnel in winter as a farm stand, potentially creating an outlet for farms that produce what they don’t, such as corn, apples, pumpkins. Bullthistle Gardens is developing compost to address poor urban soil and water conditions. Previous experience includes commercial greenhouse construction and starting a farm to create competitive paying jobs that became a 10-acre certified organic vegetable farm in Buffalo, MN with a 100 member CSA.

David and Beth Gray and their two children, Elsie and Jack.

*On May 15, 1862, Abraham Lincoln signed into law an act of Congress establishing "at the seat of Government of the United States a Department of Agriculture." Two and one-half years later, in what was to be his last annual message to the Congress, Lincoln said: "The Agricultural Department, under the supervision of its present energetic and faithful head, is rapidly commending itself to the great and vital interest it was created to advance. It is precisely the people's Department, in which they feel more directly concerned that in any other. I commend it to the continued attention and fostering care of Congress." ([https://www.nal.usda.gov/legacy/topics/lincolns-agricultural-legacy#](https://www.nal.usda.gov/legacy/topics/lincolns-agricultural-legacy#))

**Minnesota Farm Service Agency (FSA)**

[www.fsa.usda.gov/state-offices/Minnesota/index](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/state-offices/Minnesota/index)

**Minnesota Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)**


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Want to host a TCMGN event?  
Have a suggestion for a grower(s) to visit?  
Who are you going to call!?!