

Please register me for the Vegetable 101 course starting May 6, 2009

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Zip Code: _____

Email: _____

Phone #: _____

Mail this form and the registration fee of \$15 (make check payable to MSU Extension) to:

Vegetable Gardening 101 Class
MSU Extension – Isabella County
200 North Main Street
Mount Pleasant, Michigan 48858

Registration deadline is April 29, 2009

If you need assistance with funding we do have scholarships available.

Grow a Veggie Garden on Your Patio!

Urban living doesn't always present the ideal space and soil for a successful vegetable garden. This is especially true if your version of urban living is enjoying the fresh air on your 12-foot by 12-foot deck or patio.

First lady Michelle Obama is growing her own vegetable

In March, twenty-six elementary school children wielded shovels, rakes, pitchforks and wheelbarrows to help first lady Michelle Obama break ground for a produce and herb garden on the White House grounds. The garden will be located on the South Lawn and will include spinach, broccoli, various lettuces, kale and collard greens, assorted herbs and blueberries, blackberries and raspberries.

The vegetables and fruit will help provide meals for the Obama family, White House workers and guests. The produce will also go to a nearby center that provides food for homeless people. Michelle Obama said the main goal of the garden is to educate children and influence communities to choose and prepare healthful food.

The garden will be the first on the White House lawn since World War Two. President Franklin Roosevelt's wife Eleanor planted what was called a "Victory Garden" as part of the war effort in nineteen forty-three.

Eleanor Roosevelt urged all Americans to grow their own vegetables and fruits. Much of the nation's farm produce at the time was feeding American soldiers. More recently, President and Missus Clinton had a small garden. But it was planted in containers on the roof of the White House.

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ISABELLA COUNTY

Grow Your Own Vegetables



MSU Extension - Isabella County
is offering:

Vegetable Gardening 101



Vegetable Gardening 101

The Isabella County MSU Extension office is offering a basic course in vegetable gardening.

This program is designed for those who would like to learn how to grow a vegetable garden or those who have been gardening for a few years and would like to learn more.

Grow your own

Vegetables, that is. A cost-analysis by Burpee, the home gardening company, reveals major savings for people who grow their own vegetables. A well-planned garden will result in a 1 to 25 cost-savings ratio, meaning \$50 in seeds and fertilizer can produce \$1,250 worth of groceries purchased at a supermarket. All you need is a sunny garden plot.

6 Hour Course – three two hour sessions

WHEN: May 6, 13 and 20, 2009.
Classes will meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

WHERE:
Isabella County building - Room 320
200 North Main Street
Mount Pleasant.

COST: \$15 for the course, student handouts and materials.

To enroll, complete the registration form on the back and mail with your check to the Isabella County MSU Extension Office.

Registration deadline is April 29, 2009.

For additional information, call (989) 772-0091 ext. 302.

For information about the Master Gardener program in Isabella County, visit <http://isabellacounty.org>.



Course Outline

Session 1: Planning and Preparing (May 6)

This session will cover basic requirements for growing vegetables. Topics will include how much space is required, tools needed and water and sun requirements. Soil types and characteristics will be covered as well as soil testing and preparation. The session will also cover planning and proper layout of your garden.

Session 2: What to Plant and Seeds or Sets and Planning (May 13)

During Session 2, reviews what to plant. This will include a discussion of growing vs buying various vegetables, which types are best and easiest to grow and how to store vegetables. This session covers how to handle and transplant the plants.

Session 3: Raised and Container Gardens, Growing Vegetables (May 20)

Session 3, covers the use and construction of raised and container gardens. This session will also cover fertilizing, watering, pruning/thinning, and supporting plants. This session will also cover weed, pest and disease control, irrigation techniques and mulching.