

nysdec to All 10:42 AM
Please mute your phone (*6).

Kristina Boylan to Q & A Group 11:35 AM

I am a professor based in Utica NY, involved with several community gardening projects. A challenge that I have witnessed with various projects is the lack of inclusion of formal, paid positions of "garden coordinator"--to plan a six-month growing season plus prep and clean-up on both ends, plus harmonize the ideas and labor of community residents and volunteers, takes a tremendous amount of skill and effort. However, this work either remains completely unpaid (part of someone else's job, at best, and as such not given as much energy as needed; and if not, a community member or constant presence in the community potentially perceived as distant [e.g. extension agent]), or woefully underpaid (line-item on a grant resulting in barely-minimum wage pay for the designated person) and unsustainable (little consideration for employing that person for more than one season, despite the value of contacts made and relationships built, e experience, etc.) have the presenters considered this kind of work as part of their planning efforts? If not, do they see it as a valuable addition?

Kristina Boylan to Q & A Group 11:43 AM

Bad punctuation--should read "and if [the coordinator is] not a community member or constant presence in the community, potentially perceived as distant"

Henry Spliethoff to Q & A Group 11:43 AM

There was some mention of soil contamination remediation in at least one of the presentations. I wondered if any of the speakers could expand on this topic, however. It would be interesting to note how soil contamination, soil testing and remediation are viewed and addressed and what more information, support or infrastructure might be needed in the projects discussed by each of the speakers.

Gaylan Williams to Q & A Group 11:46 AM

You stated earlier that you all had +30 acres of urban farm land in Kingston. How was that land acquired? If the bulk of the land is owned by the city, how are private/non-profits/communities using them? lease?

Kristina Boylan to Q & A Group 11:47 AM

Thank you!

Gaylan Williams to Q & A Group 11:47 AM

what policies have been implemented to establish long term farming?

Amy Priestley to Q & A Group 11:49 AM

Regarding community gardens and working with children-students, are there any curriculum materials available that link urban agriculture to the NYS Learning Standards for Science?

Dana Kaplan to Q & A Group 11:56 AM

NYSDEC's soil cleanup objectives for "residential use" are recommended by Cornell Coop Extension for soil standards for growing produce

Henry Spliethoff to Q & A Group 11:58 AM

Just as a followup to the discussion of soil contamination: There are various organizations that provide guidance to gardeners and gardening groups, such as one that I'm involved with. The Healthy Soils, Healthy Communities collaboration between NYS Department of Health, Cornell University, Cornell Cooperative Extension and NYC Parks offers advice on soil testing and healthy gardening practices:

<http://cwmi.css.cornell.edu/healthysoils.htm>

David Kvinge to Q & A Group 12:02 PM

The World Health Organization has a nice pamphlet on contaminated soil and gardening

http://www.euro.who.int/__data/assets/pdf_file/0009/119187/E64737.pdf.

Common Core in the Garden: <http://www.lifelab.org/2013/12/content-standards/>