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Mission

Windwalker Education (WE) is a part of St Michaels Abbey teaching Agricultural Technology education as a non-profit organization. We seek a grant partner for the application of grants to fund the development of self-sustaining organic food growing systems and the development of educational curriculum to offer classes and workshops.

Partners

The organizations that would be most suitable as a grant partner include K-12 schools or their PTO's, senior centers, health clinics, food banks, city organizations like the Chambers of Commerce, youth clubs, churches, and other non-profit organization that serves the needs of the community in some very practical way. The practical need in many economically depressed areas is the fundamental provision of healthy food and secondarily training to produce their own food on small plots with the least amount of expended energy in producing the highest yield.

Food Growing Systems

Our mission at Windwalker Education is to set up aquaponics (fish), vermiponics (worms) and hydroponics (nutrient only) systems in the production of high-tech organic food growing systems that are self-sustaining and draw solely from local available renewable raw resources whenever possible. The systems cited above involve the integration of animals, fish and worms in a balance that provides for the production of organic nutrients that will be used to grow food in grow beds enabling a very small footprint system that is extremely low maintenance. Once up and running, such systems have proven to provide an extremely high yield of nutritious organic vegetables all year around.

We are designing, developing and testing both stationary and mobile grow systems of various sizes and yield outputs that are solar or alternative fuel powered to accommodate the needs and available growing space of the hungry. Our smaller systems can be easily located inside of a home in front of a south facing window or sliding glass door. We also design, build and train for commercial sized grow systems.

Possible Locations

In the SE part of Arizona within Cochise County, there are many economically depressed historic towns that would benefit from a Windwalker Education program offered to their 5-12 youth and adults. Of special interest is to establish a base school in the small community of Bowie, AZ and from there to develop grow systems and schools/workshops in other towns all over SE Arizona.

Classes and Workshops

Our educational method is strictly hands-on, intuitive and personal in the training of K-12 youth and adults. Workshops set up for the training of the smaller systems will have students build their own system within a well directed classroom/shop environment and when completed, students will take it home and set it up for their own food growing use throughout the year.

Larger grow system classes and workshops will have students work together in teams on existing systems and on the building of new units as a class. Instruction and demonstration will be provided on the control technologies and chemical nutrient monitoring of various systems. We are currently building a portable system on a large trailer that provides transport for 9-12 goats, 100 pounds of worms, 15 chickens, 110 gallons for fish and 124 square feet of grow beds all run on solar power. We are investigating the option of providing high school credit and Adult Continuing Education (ACE Certification) credit for our classes and workshops.

Contact Us

If this overview of our mission at Windwalker Education appeals to you and you are a non-profit with a solid financial track record as a possible grant partner, please contact Dr David Michael H. Smith at (719)421-9109 or at abbotdavidmichael@gmail.com.