

Carbon Masters™

Project for Carbon Masters class Community Infrastructure/ Gardening and Food

Focus: Blaine community

Need: The Blaine community needs to develop increased awareness of energy independence and community resilience.

Methods: I will use my extensive background in education and gardening, and spur and assist with community events

Proposal:

Assist in coordinating the Blaine Gardeners Market 2 x months from June through August. This is a new event co sponsored by the Blaine Chamber of Commerce and the city of Blaine.

The goal is 3 fold:

- encourage home vegetable gardening,
- increase the sense of community in Blaine,
- educate people about gardening and other aspects of sustainable living.

This will be held in downtown Blaine with a focus on local food. Have a booth with sustainable gardening information, and “weave in” information about lowering one’s carbon footprint in other ways: transportation, composting/recycling, home energy use, etc. If the Gardeners Market does not generate sufficient attendance, this information will be presented at other summer Blaine events as well.

I will also develop home sustainable gardening projects on our 2 1/2 acre property near Blaine. This would include:

- rain barrels,
- composting of food and animal waste,
- emergency solar lights that will work in a power outage,
- raising organic food year round, including chickens and goats.

I will hold at least 3 tours for community leaders, neighbors, and interested members of the community. (In reality we would hold ongoing tours)

We are also moving forward with discussions with city people (the city manager and tourism coordinator) on the idea of Transition Blaine, and we are getting good feedback.

Catherine Taggett, Lead

Photos of Blaine Farmers Market:

