



# TWINTOWNS GARDENERS' MARKET

## WAHPETON, ND / BRECKENRIDGE, MN

### Candy Land Igloo

What to do in the bitter cold of North Dakota this year? Build an ice igloo! Rainbow colored.

Using 310 multicolored ice blocks made in square ice cream buckets and stacked 11 layers high, the igloo grew to its 6-foot height over two weeks.

Jaclyn Weber and her friend Johnathon Brett were visiting from the east coast for Christmas and took on the challenge of building an igloo. But they found that the condition of the snow was unusable. So they searched the internet for ideas, and decided that making ice blocks would work since water froze quickly in the sub-zero weather. They made ice blocks around the clock using about 25 buckets. Some of the blocks cracked and half the buckets split.

Once they started stacking the blocks they "cemented" them with snow and water that quickly froze. They filled the structure with snow for support as they built it layer by layer, and then had to dig all the snow out through the tunnel entrance. A trash can cover with an air vent made a perfect top to the igloo.

The finished igloo has room for five people. Inside, the colored bricks create a stained glass effect. This winter wonderland is beautiful from inside the igloo, as well as from the outside.



Johnathon and Jaclyn with completed igloo



Inside view of igloo walls

Enjoy the cold!

The Webers are considering giving tours for the price of an empty square ice cream bucket so they can do this again next winter.

By Karen Weber

### February 2014

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#### We're on the Web!

[www.twintownsmarket.org](http://www.twintownsmarket.org)



Daryl Traeger  
Market Manager  
[Daryl@TwinTownsMarket.org](mailto:Daryl@TwinTownsMarket.org)

Penny Seifert  
Newsletter Editor  
[Penny.tgm@gmail.com](mailto:Penny.tgm@gmail.com)

# Workshops

## Cass County 2014 Gardening Saturday

Saturday, March 8, 2014  
NDSU Loftgard Hall, 1360 Albrecht Blvd, Fargo, ND  
8:30 am-5:00 pm  
Admission: \$20.00 by Feb. 28, \$35.00 at door  
Lunch and breaks included

Growing Roses in the North, Landscape Mistakes, Square Foot Gardening, Diagnosing Plant Problems, Sedges, Trees, and New Annuals

Schedule and registration at <http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/casscountyextension/pdfs/spring-gardening-saturday-2014-brochure>

## Community Emergency Response Team

Begins March 10, 2014

CERT teaches citizens with virtually no emergency background how to take care of themselves, their families, and their neighbors in the event of a disaster. This course is free and open to anyone age 16 or over.

For more information, contact Penny Seifert at [pennyann@wah.midco.net](mailto:pennyann@wah.midco.net).

## High Tunnel Workshop for Home Gardeners and Commercial Growers

Thursday, March 10, 2014  
Casselton, ND  
8:30 am-5:30 pm  
Admission: \$25.00 by March 1, \$35.00 at the door  
Lunch included

Brochure and registration form available at: <http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/casscountyextension/pdfs/high-tunnel-workshop-2014>

## NDSU Extension Home & Garden Pesticide Training

Tuesday, March 25, 2014  
Law Enforcement Center, 413 3rd Ave N, Wahpeton, ND (use southeast door)  
6:30-9:00 pm  
Open to everyone at no cost. This is not a certification course.

Will cover reading a label, care and handling of pesticides, care and use of personal protective equipment, and integrated pest management. Pesticide use has steadily increased over the years and most people don't fully understand how to properly use them, or the personal or environmental hazards associated with usage.

Call Richland County Extension at 701-642-7793 or [Debra.Evenson@ndsu.edu](mailto:Debra.Evenson@ndsu.edu) to register.

## Spring Gardening Workshop and Salad Supper

Thursday, April 3, 2014 (Storm date, April 17)  
Breckenridge Elementary School Cafeteria  
5:00 pm: Registration and salad supper  
6-9:00 pm: Mini-workshops  
Admission: \$15 by March 21, \$20 after March 21

Join beginner and experienced garden enthusiasts for mini-workshops featuring a variety of gardening topics including perennials, ornamental grasses, fairy gardens and terrariums, trees, shrubs, herbs, sweet potatoes, and MORE!

Register online at [www.breckenridge.k12.mn.us](http://www.breckenridge.k12.mn.us). Follow Web Store/Community Education link to choose classes for MasterCard, Visa or Discover payment.

## Grand Forks 2014 Gardening Saturday

Saturday, April 5, 2014  
Alerus Center, 1200 42nd St S, Grand Forks, ND  
8:00 am-4:15 pm  
Admission: \$40.00 by March 31, \$50.00 at the door  
Lunch and breaks included

Brochure and registration form available at: <http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/grandforkscountyextension/horticulture/gardening-saturday>

## West Otter Tail County Garden Day

Saturday, April 5, 2014  
Kennedy Secondary School, 601 Randolph Ave, Fergus Falls, MN  
8:00 am-4:00 pm  
Admission: \$30.00  
Lunch and breaks included

45 topics to choose from. Brochure available at: <http://www.co.otter-tail.mn.us/extension/2014/2014%20Website%20Brochure.pdf>

## Gardening on the Web

For timely information about gardening in our area, check out *Dakota Gardener* at <http://www.dakotagardener.com>. This online magazine has links to articles on a variety of topics like attracting song birds and deer repellents.

While you are there check the "*Dakota Growing*" link to video presentations on flowers, fruits and vegetables, landscapes, tips, and trees and shrubs.

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# Lakes Country Service Cooperative Food Hub

Lakes Country Service Cooperative (LCSC) was recently awarded Farm 2 School Grants by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture to start a food hub in Fergus Falls, MN. The food hub will function as a place to aggregate produce from area farmers and provide delivery service to schools in a nine-county region.

The feasibility grant will enable LCSC to determine a plan for research to determine interest and capacity of growers, solicit schools to participate, determine market demand within schools, assess space needs, logistics of delivery services, determine pricing strategies, and determine training needs of growers and food service staff.

The equipment grant will provide money needed to purchase items needed to build the food hub within an existing garage at the LCSC location. A refrigerated delivery truck, a walk-in cooler, stainless steel worktables, scales and delivery totes will be among the items to purchase.

## What is a Food Hub?

A regional food hub is a business or organization that actively manages the aggregation, distribution, and marketing of source-identified food products primarily from local and regional producers to strengthen their ability to satisfy wholesale, retail, and institutional demand.

The LCSC Food Hub will act as an aggregator and delivery service, primarily for schools.

Local foods from area growers will be brought to the food hub and packed in quantities ordered by schools.

The food hub will provide delivery to schools in the nine-county region and expand Farm 2 School efforts in our region.

## Opportunities for Growers

- Access to large customer base of schools with strong demand for local foods.
- Small farmers can enter wholesale market that they couldn't do independently.
- Farmer does not need to focus time and energy on marketing their products.

## Opportunities for Schools

- Start or expand Farm 2 School program by purchasing from online order entry system, with delivery service of local produce by the food hub.

The LCSC Food Hub plans to begin operations and deliveries to schools in September 2014. If you are interested in selling your fresh fruits and vegetable to the Food Hub, contact Dana Rieth at [drieth@lcsc.org](mailto:drieth@lcsc.org) or 218-737-6553.

To complete the Food Service or Grower survey and learn more about LCSC go to [www.lcsc.org](http://www.lcsc.org).

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# Bumble Bee Watch Project

You can become a citizen scientist. Take a photo of a bumble bee, then go to <http://bumblebeewatch.org> to learn how to submit your photo.

Bumble Bee Watch is a collaborative effort to track and conserve North America's bumble bees. Because bumble bees are widely distributed, the best way to keep track of them is with an army of volunteers armed with cameras. With any luck you may help them find remnant populations of rare species before they go extinct.

More than 70 percent of flowering plants require insects for pollination. One out of every three mouthfuls of food and drink we consume depends upon pollinators. And bees are our most important pollinators.

