

Wabash Rooftop Gardens



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Information About the Garden

- ✦ There are two rooftop gardens at Roosevelt University located on the fifth floor of the Wabash Building.
- ✦ Roosevelt's Dining Center composts food waste, which is then used in the garden.
- ✦ The gardens have an array of different plant life, from herbs, to vegetables, to pollinator-attracting flowers.
- ✦ Herbs and vegetables are circulated back into the Dining Center.



Plants being grown in the garden

- + Spinach
- + Microgreens
- + Dwarf Kale
- + Swiss Chard
- + Mustard Greens
- + Parsley
- + Cilantro
- + Bell Peppers
- + Chamomile
- + Lavender
- + Spearmint
- + Snap Peas
- + Fox Gloves
- + Petunias
- + Butterfly Weed



Why does it matter

◆ Improve Air Quality



- capture airborne pollutants & atmospheric deposition.
- ◆→ filter noxious gases.
- »→ decrease the CO₂ and other polluting

◆ Reducing the Urban Heat Island Effect



→ The temperature differential causes air currents and dust, and even contributes to violent weather events within urban settings.



Why does it matter

◆ Reduced energy use



→ Green rooftops absorb heat and act as insulators for buildings reducing energy needed to provide cooling and heating that can lead to significant cost savings.



◆ Reduced stormwater runoff

→ Green rooftops can filter pollutants from rainfall.

→ like a sponge and absorbs excess rain water.

→ In the summer a green roof can typically retain between 70%-80% of the runoff



Our Action

- ✦ Find a way to gain volunteers for the summer, and upcoming semesters
- ✦ Set up a paid internship or a non-paid internship with free housing
- ✦ Get other classes to give extra credit to be involved in the garden
- ✦ Understanding how the Garden is currently planned and maintained



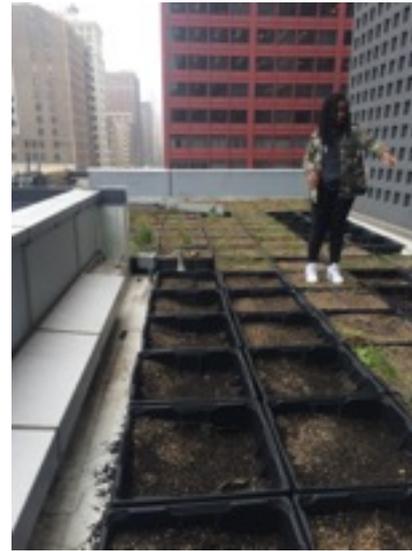
The Results

Volunteers

Alpha Phi Omega

Seed-Starting

SUST 230 Food



Internships-

Summer & Fall

**Group Planting
Event**

April 22nd

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What we have learned

- ✦ How seed starting works.
- ✦ Be apart of the process by helping water and watching over the seeds.
- ✦ Not all plants can thrive on a rooftop garden.
- ✦ How the Garden benefits the environment.



What now?

- ✦ Through Alpha Phi Omega we will gain volunteers every semester
- ✦ Alpha Phi Omega is a Service Fraternity that requires students to do service in the campus, community, country, and chapter
- ✦ Volunteering at the garden would consist of on campus service.
- ✦ Win-Win situation we will continuously get volunteers for future semesters.

What Next?

- ✦ Other classes such as SUST 230 Food is offering an extra credit option where students can contribute by doing seed starting at home.
- ✦ Two paid internships are set up for over the summer; A position in Chicago and a position in Schaumburg.



Thank
you!

