

Alameda Backyard Growers – 2012 Highlights



Donated Over 2,000 Pounds of Local Fruit to the Food Bank!

- How ABG's gleaning program works: after fruit tree owners contact ABG, we send volunteers to pick the surplus fruit and bring it to the Alameda Food Bank where it is typically distributed to food bank clients within 24 hours
- ABG members donated 2,050 lbs of gleaned fruit to the Alameda Food Bank in 2012 (compared to 845 lbs in 2011) – almost 88% of our group's total donations for the year!
- Call (510) 239-PICK or email us at alamedabackyardgrowers@gmail.com if you have a fruit tree you would like gleaned or if you would like to volunteer



Won First Place in Alameda's Fourth of July Parade!

- 24 gardeners took to the streets in the 2012 Mayor's Fourth of July Parade to raise awareness of Alameda Backyard Growers as a community resource and to encourage parade-goers to grow and eat their own fruits and veggies and share their surplus with the Alameda Food Bank
- Our passion for homegrown food (and our homegrown style) inspired and amused the crowds and resulted in a surprising win: First Place in the "Walking, Bicycles, Skates" category!



Became a Not-for-Profit Corporation & Formed a Board!

- ABG has grown steadily since our start as an informal network of gardeners in February 2010 — as of December 2012 we reached 430 people on our mailing list and had 165 "likes" on Facebook
- In June 2012, 20 active members attended an ABG Leadership Retreat where a Steering Committee formed to begin the process of becoming a 501(c)3 tax-exempt not-for-profit corporation
- In November 2012, we became a not-for-profit corporation and 11 members were appointed to our new Board of Directors



Offered Free Community Education Programs & Promoted Local Groups and Events!

- In addition to free monthly meetings featuring presentations by local experts, ABG strengthened connections with over 20 local partners including Ploughshares Nursery, Alameda County Master Gardeners, Project LEAF, Alameda Backyard Chickens, Alameda Backyard Beekeepers, Community Action for a Sustainable Alameda (CASA), Alameda Multicultural Community Center, Alameda Farmers Market, Farm2Market, St. Joseph's Garden Club, Alameda Family Services, and the library's "Green Thumbs, Green Minds" Program, Seed Library & Lending Tool Library



Measured Our Impact!

- ABG tracks Alameda Food Bank donations made by our members. Members identify their affiliation with ABG when they drop off produce and have the food bank staff/volunteers weigh their donation(s). Then members email us the date, type, weight, and source of the donated produce
- In 2012, ABG members made 70 donations totaling 2,327.78 lbs of produce (of which 2,049.5 lbs were gleaned fruit)
- 66% of the donations was citrus fruit
- Largest single donation: 180 lbs of plums - smallest : 0.5 lbs of plums