

IN BRIEF

Free urban gardening sessions available

The Community Foreclosure Coalition of Jackson, Lenawee and Hillsdale is offering free urban gardening sessions for anyone who is interested in starting or expanding an urban garden or other food-based business.

Jane Bush, certified business development specialist with the Small Business Association and the Food System Economic Partnership in Michigan, will conduct these one-hour consulting session.

The session will take place between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. every Monday in June at the Community Action Agency, 1214 Greenwood Ave.

Participants must schedule a session time by calling 231-2240 or e-mailing bushj@fsepmichigan.org.

Also on Mondays in June, Bush will host a social hour for urban farmers, gardeners and supporters from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at the Roxy Cafe, 606 N. West Ave.

For more information about the coalition, visit www.jlhcf.org.

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Free urban gardening sessions at CAA

In recent months urban gardening has been a hot topic for communities looking at the re-use of vacant and/or foreclosed properties. Urban gardening has been 'gaining ground' as community members and neighbors take action - using land for purposes such as growing food.

The Community Foreclosure Coalition of Jackson, Lenawee, and Hillsdale is working to support urban agriculture, community food systems, and the wise re-use of foreclosed properties. As part of that effort the Coalition is bringing Jane Bush, Certified Business Development Spe-

cialist with the Small Business Administration and the Food System Economic Partnership, to offer free one-hour consulting sessions for anyone interested in starting or expanding an urban garden/farm or other food based business.

She will be holding sessions at Community Action Agency 1214 Greenwood Ave. in Jackson every Monday, June 7, 14, 21, and 28, between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Participants must schedule a session time, Bush may be contacted at 517-231-2240 or bushj@fsepmichigan.org.

Also on Mondays in June, Roxy's Café 606 N. West Ave.

in Jackson, and Bush are holding a social hour for urban farmers/gardeners and supporters to gather weekly for informal networking from 8 to 9:30 a.m.

Bush has more than 20 years of experience in agricultural production and was recently recognized as the 2010 MIFFS (Michigan Food and Farming Systems) Michigan Agricultural Steward of the Year.

For more information about the Community Foreclosure Coalition, the work to stop preventable foreclosure and to soften the effects on families, neighborhoods, and our local