

# The **MAD FARMER** Community & Teaching Garden

Main Library  
501 Copper Ave. NW  
Albuquerque, NM

## Gazette



With a nod to  
Wendell Berry

September—October

Price : Always Free

### Welcome to the Mad

**Farmer Garden**, where we ask the question, how do you grow food in a half a city block of concrete and brick Brutalist architecture with no tillable soil? Or for that matter, what if you rent a place and can't dig up the yard? Maybe all you got is the a small porch or patio but you would still like to grow a garden.

Well you'll be glad to know that we have an answer.... Buckets. This summer we are growing a variety of vegetables, from seedlings to harvest right here at the Main Library in downtown Albuquerque, using mostly five gallon buckets. You can get these ubiquitous buckets almost everywhere. They are used to store everything from paint to pickles. They also make great containers for growing food in.

So join us in exploring container gardening and other methods to grow your own food in a downtown urban setting, or any other place where a traditional in ground garden is not tenable.



the PUBLIC LIBRARY  
ALBUQUERQUE and BERNALILLO COUNTY



**To visit** the garden, go to the Main Library at 501 Copper Ave. and go downstairs and check in at the Youth Dept. desk.

### Important announcement

Albuquerque's first frost is due in October right around Halloween. So act accordingly

### Many Thanks

to The Albuquerque Public Library Foundation for making this garden possible with their generous support.



THE ALBUQUERQUE PUBLIC  
LIBRARY FOUNDATION

### Upcoming Events.....

**Citizen Gardening in troubled times. A presentation and discussion.**

Did you know that in WWII 40% of the produce grown in the US was grown in Victory Gardens? During the height of the war there were 4.8 million Victory Gardens grown by every day citizens in their yards and vacant lots.

Later in the early 1990s, Cuba faced a huge energy and food crises. The Cuban's were heavily subsidized by Russia and when the Soviet Union fell, they lost 80% of their food exports practically overnight.

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## Upcoming Events—

### Citizen Gardening , continued

The fuel that ran their heavily industrialized agriculture dried up also. Their answer was very similar to our Victory Gardens and it worked.

Join us in a presentation and discussion on how these instances pertain to our current times, and how community and private gardening can be a positive catalyst for dealing with current and future challenges.

If you want to make it a full morning , Come early and visit the Downtown Growers Market two blocks down at Robinson Park..

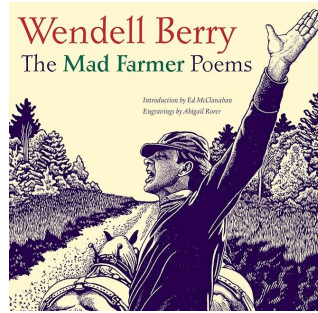
Saturday September 13<sup>th</sup> 10:30  
Main Library 501 Copper NW.

### Urban Homesteading

Many folks now days want to live a lifestyle that is healthier, more self-sufficient and closer to the earth. Urban homesteading is a modern movement that harkens back to an agrarian past where many Americans where more self-sufficient and grew much of their own food. You don't have to buy a farm or a large plot of land to become a modern homesteader, You can just start where you're at.

Urban homesteading usually revolves around gardening and small-scale farming often incorporating things like raising chickens and bee keeping, along with a strong do it yourself ethos. Come join us in looking into this unique lifestyle and, if your living the dream already, come share your insights.

Saturday October 11th 10:30  
Main Library 501 Copper NW



### Who is the Mad Farmer?

The Mad Farmer is a fictional character in a series of poems written by Wendell Berry. The Mad Farmer embodies a critique of modern society and its destructive forces, advocating for a return to simpler, more meaningful ways of life centered around nature, community, and ecological responsibility. He is mad in all the best ways.

Excerpts from “*The Mad Farmer, Flying the Flag of the Rough Branch, Secedes from the Union.*”

*From the union of power and money,*

*From the union of power and secrecy,*

*from the union of government and science,*

*from the union of government and art,*

*from the union of science and money,*

*from the union of ambition and ignorance,*

*from the union of genius and war,*

*from the union of outer space and inner vacuity,*

*the Mad Farmer walks quietly away.*

*There is only one of him, but he goes.*

*He returns the small country he calls home,*

*his own nation small enough to walk across.*

*He goes shadowy into the local woods,*

*and brightly into the local meadows and croplands.*

*He goes to the care of neighbors, he goes into the care of neighbors.*

*He goes to the potluck supper, a dish*

*from each house for the hunger of every house.....*

*....Come all ye conservatives and liberals*

*who want to conserve the good things and be free,*

*come away from the merchants of big answers,*

*whose hands are metaled with power;*

*from the union of anywhere and everywhere*

*by the purchase of everything from everybody at the lowest price*

*and the sale of anything to anybody at the highest price:*

*from the union of work and debt, work and despair;*

*from the wage slavery of the hopelessly well employed.*

*From the union of self-gratification and self-annihilation,*

*secede into care for one another and for the good gifts of Heaven and Earth.*