



Hewa Bora “Fresh Air” Farm

Introducing Hewa Bora
“Fresh Air” Farm in Ward 5
on Edgewood Avenue adjacent to the Akron Zoo

*Shanti Community
Farms’ New Urban
Farm Project 2022*

Important Details about the New Urban Farm

LOCATION: The lots run along two blocks of **Edgewood Ave.** incorporating the cross streets of **Monroe St.** and **Bishop St.** to **Euclid Ave.** adjacent to the Akron Zoo property.

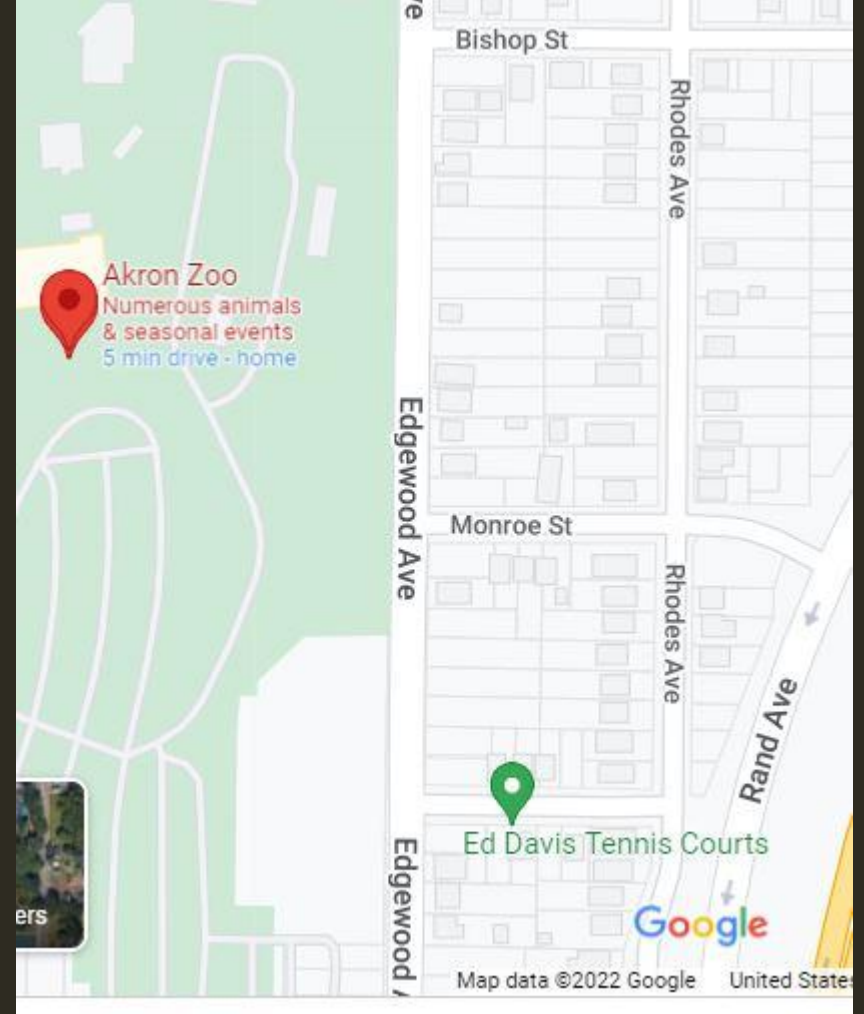
CROPS Primarily native ssed of Africa and Nepal including kenga lenga, peanuts,hot peppers, corn beans

SOIL: Tested and determined that there is no contamination. Tested by UMass Ag Extension, April 2022.

IRRIGATION: Two fire hydrants located strategically within this footprint.

STRUCTURES CURRENT & FUTURE:

- Farm stand, storage shed and picnic shelter
- High tunnel and container gardens
- Compost bins and rain barrels
- Educational facility including a class room and restrooms within the first five years.





Established 2017 in Akron OH

Shanti Community Farms

Mission

- SCF works with local inner city neighborhoods offering farming/gardening opportunities on urban vacant lots.
- SCF is designed to preserve and showcase the agricultural, and additionally, the original cultural heritage of Akron area immigrant families and youth.,
- The company name “Shanti” appropriately means “peace” in Nepali.
- The new urban farm name “Hewa Bora” means “fresh air” in Swahili.

SCF PROGRAMS & SERVICES

- **Farmers Market** (June-October)
July-September, location TBD
- **Yard Corps** Student work crews paid with stipends for performing outdoor maintenance services at private homes, churches, farms and businesses.
- **A Golden Time Picnics** Food prep, serving and performing for customers who pay for a full-service catered picnic.
- **English Language/GED Classes** For interested adult learners
- **Youth Student Tutoring** Brush up on language arts and math classes
- **I-Pop Dance Performance** Currently Black Beanz (African Bongo Flava) & Hot Pepperz (Nepali, Hindi, Bollywood)

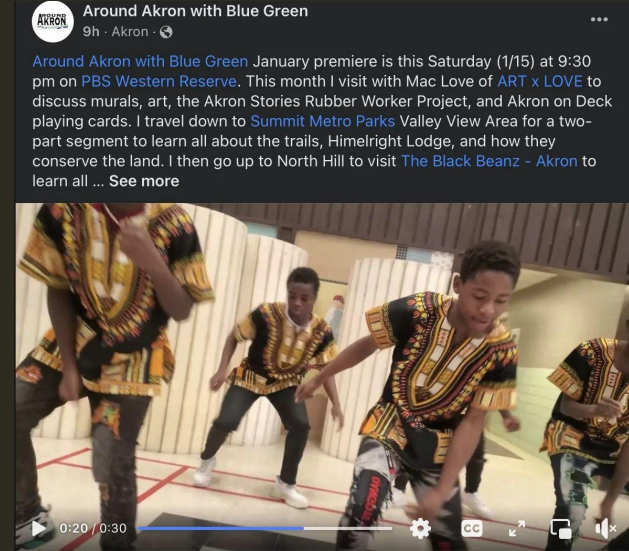
Urban Farms North Hill/West Hill



Yard Corps 12-17 yr-old work crews



Golden Time Picnic, Farmers Market & Cultural Teen Performance



Farm to School/Tutoring/TESOL



Urban Farm Participants

A major urban agricultural training facility for economic development and education. Starting a new urban farm adjacent to the Zoo for the neighborhood community, the African and Bhutanese immigrant families steeped in agriculture and the new I Promise Village residents.

- Neighborhood residents will be provided with 10' x 20' garden plots available, some in elevated containers.
- African/Congolese farm families growing native seed crops, including maize, peanuts and langa langa (amaranthe).
- Bhutanese/Nepali families growing native seed crops, including mustard greens, hot peppers and snake gourd.
- Once the I Promise Village is completed, members of that community will also participate in the urban farm experience.

Community Benefits of Urban Farm

- **Economics** Cut family food costs for food consumed by participating gardeners.
- **Nutrition** Local fresh food promotes healthy diet.
- **Health** The act of growing that food also boosts physical and mental health.
- **Community Education** Urban farming adds and preserves green space in cities, providing places for neighbors to come together, strengthen bonds, and build community cohesion.
- **Sustainability** Cultivated land prevents runoff stormwater from overloading sewer systems and polluting waterways. Attract pollinators like bees and keep city neighborhoods cooler, minimizing the health impacts of heat island effect.

Thank you to our PARTNERS

Akron Zoo

City of Akron

Akron Public Schools

University of Akron

Kent State University Stark

South Street Ministries

Bicycle Clinic

Let's Grow Akron

Summit County Master
Gardeners

OSU Extension-Summit
County

Summit Food Coalition

I Promise Village

International Institute of
Akron

IN THE MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

Around Akron with Blue Green 2018: *240 Tallmadge garden first year 2018*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BW7sXMVuhzM>

Cleveland Ideastream Public Media Bhata Rizal is Sharing his Farming Heritage with Immigrants in Akron

[https://www.https://www.ideastream.org/community/2023-01-31/hes-sharing-his-farming-heritage-with-immigrants-in-akron](https://www.ideastream.org/community/2023-01-31/hes-sharing-his-farming-heritage-with-immigrants-in-akron)

Action News 5 Cleveland: Student Farmers Market at Exchange House 2021

<https://www.news5cleveland.com/news/local-news/akron-canton-news/shanti-community-farms-highlights-the-agricultural-heritage-of-akrons-north-hill-neighborhood>