

VI. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

An important part of this project was the involvement of citizens in the rooftop garden and encouraging interest in urban gardening. More than 200 people took the classes in "Organic Gardening" which were given in French and English, and 80 of these people were able to garden on the roof of the community centre. One hundred people attended classes in "Nutrition" and 25 in "Houseplants". Four courses in "Organic Gardening" were given at the local public school. A course in "Construction of Gardening Structures" was also given.

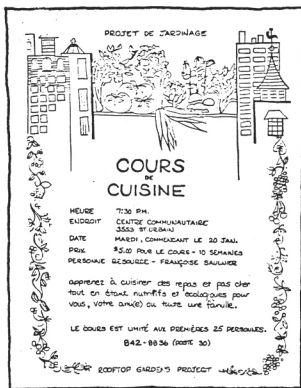
A Gardening Supply Store was started where soil, seeds and organic fertilizers were made available to community residents at cost.

Young, middle-aged, and elderly people were all very interested in learning about organic gardening and in getting their hands into a garden of their own. Response was so enthusiastic in fact that extra courses had to be given and a waiting list made for those wanting garden boxes.

The people gardening on the roof seemed fascinated by their experiences, they really entered into it and wanted more. Despite many setbacks (creosote damage, vandalism, squirrel and pest problems) people kept returning and, when necessary, planting again. Although a number of people planning to move to the country wanted to learn gardening skills in order to become highly self-sufficient this was not the case with most of the city dwellers who seemed more interested in the gardening experience than anything else.

As the summers wore on gardeners on the roof got to know each other more and more and new friendships were formed. At the time of writing, the most serious gardeners have formed a group and are now responsible for complete rooftop maintenance.

The rooftop offered beautiful surroundings and people were very aware of this when they tended their plants. Many non-gardeners come up to the roof just to enjoy the sun and the plants.



PROJET DE JARDINAGE

**COURS
DE
CUISSINE**

HEURE 7:30 PM.
ENDROIT CENTRE COMMUNAUTAIRE
3563 ST-URBAN

DATE MARDI, COMMENÇANT LE 30 JUIL.

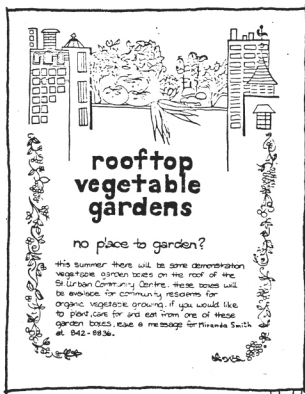
PRIX \$5.00 POUR LE COURS - 10 SEMAINES

PERSONNE RESOURCE - FRANÇOISE SAULNIER

APPRENEZ À CUISSER DES REPAS ET PAS CHER
TOUT EN ÉTANT NUTRITIFS ET ÉCOLOGIQUES POUR
VOUS, VOTRE AMI(E) OU TOUTE VOTRE FAMILLE.

LES BOUES SONT UNITÉ AUX PREMIÈRES 25 PERSONNES.
842-8836 (POSTE 30)

ROOFTOP GARDEN'S PROJECT



**rooftop
vegetable
gardens**

no place to garden?

this summer there will be some abbreviated
vegetable garden boxes on the roof of the
St. Urban Community Centre. these boxes will
be available for community residents for
organic vegetable growing. if you would like
to plant, care for and eat from one of these
garden boxes, send a message for Mirveta Smith
at 842-8836.