

City of Hancock

From: ereese@mainstreetcalumet.com on behalf of Elmore Reese
<ereese@mainstreetcalumet.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2012 2:40 PM
To: Clerk
Subject: Re: Hoop House Workshop

Hoop House Workshop

The Main Street Calumet Market will host the third in its series of free public workshops on Wednesday, January 25, 2012 at the Village of Calumet Council Chambers (located in the Calumet Theatre building), 340 Sixth Street, Calumet, Michigan 49913 at 6:00 p.m. Kelly Cantway, Special Projects Coordinator with the Marquette Food Co-op, will conduct the workshop which is based on her experience working on five hoop house projects in Marquette County.

Hoop houses are unheated greenhouses that are gaining popularity, with individual and commercial producers, as a way to protect plants from harsh weather conditions, extend local growing seasons and consequently increase a producer's output and income. Ms. Cantway's presentation will cover a variety of topics including how to get started with financial assistance, hoop house construction, and the potential to harvest and market produce year round.

An example of how a variation on hoop houses is being used to extend the growing season on a farm in Main can be found in a video entitled "Living Off The Land", part of a series entitled Diary of a Foodie produced by Gourmet Magazine http://www.gourmet.com/diaryofafoodie/video/2008/01/109_livingofftheland_fullep beginning at 1:50 into the video. A second episode entitled "The Collective" shows how a small town in Vermont is using agriculture and food production to establish a brand for area products and help revive the local economy http://www.gourmet.com/diaryofafoodie/video/2009/02/309_collective beginning at 12:40 to 18:23 and again at 20:34.

Given the time of year the Main Street Calumet Market would also like to direct local grower's attention to a free webinar presented by the Practical Framers of Iowa entitled "Tax Preparation Training for Farmers." The information is applicable to growers in all 50 states and will be held on January 10, 2012 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. If you miss the original webinar it will be available within two or three day on their website <http://www.practicalfarmers.org/farminar/> for anyone who is interested.

For additional information or questions about the workshop please contact Elmore Reese at the Main Street Calumet Market at 906-337-6246 or ereese@mainstreetcalumet.com.