

Workshop „University Gardening“

More and more fertile land cannot be used for food production due to the increasing demand for land by expanding cities, road systems and biomass for energy. The resulting ground sealing and soil devastation represents a serious problem of the actual generation but will be of even major importance in the future.

Therefore, urban gardening represents an opportunity to produce food on a small scale by using free plots in urban areas. By producing their own food, townies not only contribute to their food sovereignty.

Moreover it creates a retreat area where different groups of people can come together and enjoy nature's relaxing properties.

This is also the aim of this workshop "University Gardening". We want to connect different gardening projects from Tübingen and ... – you! by sharing experience and ideas about how to produce food by using municipal or university areas.

In the first part of this workshop we invited the following initiatives which will shortly present themselves and give an introduction into their work:

- Food Revitalisation & Eco-Gastronomic Society of Hohenheim (F.R.E.S.H.): University Garden and beekeeping
- Initiative "Bunte Wiese" (Colourful Meadow), University of Tübingen: Higher Biodiversity on University's green space
- Students Union Geo-Ecology, University of Tübingen: Student's "Streuobstwiese" (meadow orchard)
- Interdisciplinary Student's Biochar Research Garden

There will be no plenary discussion after these presentations, but interaction: In the second part of the workshop, participants will have the opportunity to contribute to the start up of Tübingen's mobile "University Garden". We will use recyclable and portable containers (such as Tetra-Pak, old crates) for seeding and planting different kinds of vegetables (i.e. carrots, onions, beans, cabbage, salad).