



News Release

DATE: April 1, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LOCAL GROUPS TO MAINTAIN MORE THAN 1,360 VACANT LOTS THIS SUMMER:

CLEAN & GREEN PROGRAM KICKS-OFF

FLINT, MI – “This is a creative, resourceful, and equitable approach towards maintaining vacant lots in Flint neighborhoods,” says Natalie Pruett the Clean & Green Program Manager. From April to September community-based groups will clean, green, and garden more than 1,36130 vacant lots in and around the City of Flint, the equivalent of roughly 56 city blocks.

Block-clubs, schools, churches, neighborhood associations, and local non-profits are some of the 46 community-based groups participating in the 2013 Clean & Green program. Each group receives a stipend for maintaining at least 25 lots every three weeks. Many groups create greening projects, including urban orchards, food gardens, flower gardens, and even community horseshoe pits. Almost all of the groups include participation from neighborhood youth, who then create change in their own neighborhoods.

Clean & Green kicks-off on Tuesday, April 1 at 1 PM at Calvary United Methodist Church. Representatives from each of the 46 Clean & Green groups will gather to connect with each other, receive program binders, and participate in an exercise on rethinking urban land.

About the Genesee County Land Bank's Clean & Green Program

Clean & Green has been a program of the Genesee County Land Bank since 2004. The purpose of the Clean & Green program is to support innovative community groups and organizations in the cleaning, maintaining, and beautifying of otherwise vacant properties in Genesee County. Through the program community groups seasonally maintain concentrated clusters of vacant lots held by the Land Bank. Each participating group receives a stipend for maintaining at least 25 lots every three weeks from April to September. Groups are selected to participate in the program through a competitive application process. The Clean & Green program is supported through grant funding. For more information on Clean & Green e-mail npruett@thelandbank.org or call (810) 293-0663.

About the Genesee County Land Bank's other greening options: Lots Available

While Clean & Green is open to community-based groups only, the Genesee County Land Bank has created options for those who want to green lots held by the Land Bank whom are not eligible for Clean & Green, including individual residents. There are three ways that both groups and individual residents can access lots held by the Land Bank: Adopt-A-Lot, Lease-A-Lot, and Lease-A-Lot with Option. For more information on the Land Bank's Lots Available, visit www.thelandbank.org or visit the office – 452 S. Saginaw St. 2nd Floor, Flint.