

Topic: Cold Frames – Extending growing season to year round veggies

Name of Convener: Mary Gray

Participants

Mary Gray

Karee Mackey

Drew Summerell

Joan Brannon

Richard Boylan

Our apologies to whoever else was present whose names we did not record

Main Points:

We can grow our own greens year round. Watauga could be more self-sufficient by increasing the numbers of people who use cold frames.

Mary Gray shared ways she has seen and used cold frames; she has even used pvc hoops and mattress covers to extend growing seasons.

The seeds can be started in September and some can be harvested as early as December; others are ready in February, March. Kale, spinach, bok choy and other great greens can be grown. Cold frames could be a great way fit school gardening into the school semester, which do not typically fall within the growing season

Recommended Resources:

Solar Gardening by Poisson

Four Season Harvest by Eliot Coleman

<http://wintersown.org/>

Action Steps

Educate people through handouts, newsarticles

Share photos of cold frames, offer garden tours

Share the ideas/information with groups such as 4-H and gardening classes

Contact the Extension office for more information and resource materials.

Create a powerpoint to share with others and target August/September time period for educating others