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Backyard Urban Farming Presentation Virtual Event Hosted by Ferndale Library Thurs., July 15 7 pm Via Zoom

Sign-up link: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/permafern">https://tinyurl.com/permafern</a>
More info: <a href="facebook.com/ferndalepubliclibrary">facebook.com/ferndalepubliclibrary</a>

## Ferndale Library Hosts Virtual Event on Benefits of Urban Farming & How To Get Started | July 15

**FERNDALE, Mich. (June 21, 2021)--** The practice of urban farming can be empowering, sustainable, healthy; it's good for the environment, and it's good for you! And if anyone wants to learn about how to start up an urban farm in their own backyard, they can sign up for Ferndale Library's virtual presentation (via Zoom) on Thursday, July 15 at 7 pm. Ferndale resident Luke Zdenek is an experienced permaculture designer who's been diligently working on his own suburban farmstead over the last few years, and he's ready to share his knowledge.

"Urban farming just felt right after a childhood spent on farms, helping manage animals," Zdenek said. "I have been a student of permaculture for the last decade, and I've applied the philosophy to many areas of my life."

Zdenek's presentation will cover the core elements of urban gardening, including planting and growing vegetables, fruit trees, and perennial herbs. Other topics will include maximizing rainwater harvesting (which recycles runoff to feed the garden), raising chickens (to provide helpful pest control and fresh eggs), beekeeping (to nurture flowers and fruit trees), and composting (to turn waste into compost).

Permaculture is likely a word many of us have seen mentioned on social media a lot more frequently lately--and Zdenek will be on hand, via Zoom, to demystify all of it. Essentially, it's a level up from conventional gardening that emphasizes harmony between humans and the soil, relying on natural processes to promote the growth of plants and vegetables. The end result is one of self-sustainability.

The backyard urban farming presentation on July 15 is part of the Ferndale Library's Summer Reading Program; adults and kids of all ages can sign up anytime in June and take on a reading challenge. Summer Reading participants can earn a digital raffle ticket for every virtual event they attend--increasing their chances of winning a prize. More info: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/adultwandoo">http://tinyurl.com/adultwandoo</a> | Those interested in Zdenek's presentation can sign up here: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/permafern">https://tinyurl.com/permafern</a>

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