

## **Breakout Session**

### **Key Functions of a Network and Mapping of Potential Network Sites**

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Mapping/inventory (Heritage) functions a network could perform

- Collecting information at Point of Service where trees will be planted
- Collecting information on growing edible trees
- Identifying where heritage trees grow now and in the future
- Find out what maps, databases and inventories already exist and connect to them
- Put forward policies and ideas on mapping issues (privacy is a big issue)
- Establish a clearing house of information regarding heritage trees

Encourage heritage tree production

- Link nurseries to each other
- Conduct outreach and education to the public to let them know what grows in their areas and the benefits of edible landscaping.

Scale of networks

- Current relationships scale from large formal gleaning programs to small informal “under the radar” gleaning and distribution, to “tree level”
- How do we best connect fruit trees with willing harvesters?
  - Existing methods: neighborhood flyers, direct newsletters, HOAs, people calling statewide network or local gleaning programs
  - New methods could be new homeowner education, mobilizing student networks (barriers are sparying, liability?)

Barriers and possible solutions?

- Liability
  - At UA, need to establish trust between student groups and administration
- Spraying/threat of spraying
  - Is there a potential cost/benefit analysis? Ie. “I’ll pick this fruit so you don’t have to clean up after it, so don’t spray”
  - Need some labeling to make people aware of spraying
- Need to have storage of gleaned food
- Pruning of fruit trees to look like shade trees reduces ease of picking fruit
- Cultural barriers and availability of cheap calories reduce interest in edible trees
- Fruit trees “make a mess”
- “If one person can have it, everyone should have access”

- can there be donation programs to spread the gleaned fruit
- there may be gleaning occurring without permission
- ADWR approved trees – what fruit trees would qualify on their list?

#### Technology

- Connecting with people on line
- Crowdsourcing
- Free subscription website to link fruit tree purchasers
- QR codes
- Mapping – scientific and citizen-engaged
- Database of trees

#### Communications

- Get information to the public and back from them
- Allow growers to learn from each other
- Identify and reach out to potential network members
- Share expert information with growers
- Sharing information
  - LEAF network, social media, existing gleaning networks

Identify model networks to learn from.

What do effective networks look like?

- Facebook:
  - Easily connects people
  - Allows users to shape it
  - Little or no hierarchy