

Local: Madison

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Plants Under the Roof

(translated from "Plantos bajo de tejado", La Comunidad News, 8-7-2003)



St. Mark's Lutheran Church, working with the Youth program of the Hispanic Center, the Rock River Coalition, and Partnership for Rain Gardens, started up their "Environmental Action Project" again. This project consists of

creating a rain garden at the foot of the downspout from a house or building.

The garden that has been constructed with the joint work of the members of the three organizations, will be fed with the downspout from the roof of St. Mark's Lutheran Church, located

in 605 Spruce Street, a block from Park Street. With this program, the young people are motivated to take advantage of the rain water to nourish the garden, under the advice of the coordinators of the Youth programs of the Hispanic Center, Rock River Coalition, and Partnership for Rain Gardens. "The water that runs off the roof and lawn has nutrients. Instead of letting the water wash away as runoff, we took advantage of it for planting the garden with special plants that soak up rain--the native plants of Wisconsin," said Susan Priebe of Partnership for Rain Gardens.