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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FREE Permaculture and Farming Workshops for Navajo Farmers, Ranchers and Families

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Entity Responsible for Release: Earth Mother Agricultural Initiative
of Capacity Builder's Inc. (a Farmington nonprofit agency)

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Date of Event: Every Other Sunday through Summer 2018 | Beginning November 5, 2017
Time of Event: 9:00 AM
Address of Event: Seventh Day Adventist Church (on Route 64) in Waterflow, NM
Event Registration: 505.326.4245, ext. 128
Event Schedule: <http://bit.ly/EMAIwkshp>

Event Name: Growing Profitable Crops
...a workshop series from Earth Mother Agricultural Initiative (EMAI)
with a focus on permaculture farming, Hi Tunnel building,
transplanting, composting, land restoration and community
sustainability.

Description: Earth Mother Agricultural Initiative (EMAI) is continuing to support Navajo farmers and ranchers across the Navajo Nation's Northern Agency. EMAI will provide **FREE workshops** from the Fall of 2017 through the Summer of 2018. We have partnered with the Permaculture Provision Project and will have several resources available for participants. The goal is to improve small farmer and rancher capacity and economic conditions through individual technical assistance and workshops.

FARMINGTON, New Mexico, Oct. 31, 2017 -- Earth Mother Agricultural Initiative (EMAI) from Capacity Builders, has been providing technical assistance to farmers and ranchers in 14 chapters in the Northern Agency of the Navajo Nation since March of 2015. EMAI is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture Small and Socially Disadvantaged Producers grant. The project provides individual consulting



and also organizes workshops on topics of interest to Navajo farmers and ranchers. Farmers and ranchers in these chapters are eligible to participate:

- Nenahnezad
- Upper Fruitland
- Tsa Daa K'aaan
- Gadii' ahi
- Shiprock
- San Juan
- Toadlena
- Tolikan
- Teec Nos Pos
- Sheep Springs
- Red Mesa
- Beclabito
- Tiis Tso Sikaad
- Newcomb

Earth Mother Agricultural Initiative (EMAI) has partnered with the **Permaculture Provision Project**, a nonprofit from Cortez CO, to provide training and workshops throughout the year. The Permaculture Provision Project has been working with the Navajo Nation to implement principles that will allow its people to reap benefits for future generations. "If realized, the Navajo Nation can lead the globe as the site of the largest Permaculture land restoration project in the western world," says Grant Curry, the Permaculture Provision Project trainer.

The Navajo Nation is one of the largest areas of arid badlands where residents say "nothing can grow out here." EMAI and the Permaculture Provision Project will connect Navajo Nation Ranchers and Farmers with the training and resources needed to effectively grow crops, rebuild soil and transform the land to a sustainable state. "It is all about creating a naturally occurring water source to sustain soil moisture," says Grant Curry. Permaculture has been found to be the most cost effective way to help restore the land, encourage growth and allow nature to do what it does best.

Growing Profitable Crops: Workshop Series

We will be offering workshops at The Higher Grounds School in Waterflow, NM starting on November 5, 2017 going through the Summer of 2018. Registration is REQUIRED and space is LIMITED to the FIRST FIFTEEN (15) who register per session! The workshop schedule can be viewed at <http://bit.ly/EMAIwkshp> . Participants can register by calling 505-326-4245, ext. 128.

This workshop is open to new farmers, future farmers, old pro farmers, even mom/dads who just want their kids to grow up strong and healthy. There will be **three major components** to the series:

- 1) Growing profitable crops in winter high tunnels with no added heat, and also using high tunnels to get produce to market earlier in the spring, summer and fall,
- 2) Using homemade chicken tractors to increase profit and, more importantly, rehabilitate waste land into fertile and productive farmland, and
- 3) Create abundance with Permaculture by, among other things, developing springs of fresh, clean water and lush food forests that will feed your family and livestock for generations.

In addition to learning how to grow new crops during new times of year, participants will get FREE resource guides, cooking classes, seeds and trees, and irrigation equipment while supplies last. There will also be deep discounts for books and tools, giveaways and valuable information on obtaining grants for scaling up to commercial production.



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Future topics for workshops and program support can be suggested to the Earth Mother Agricultural Initiative (EMAI) at Capacity Builders. If you are interested in partnering with the Earth Mother Agricultural Initiative (EMAI) or helping with the development of this project, you can contact Rachel Nawrocki at r.nawrocki@capacitybuilders.info .

For this series we have received many sponsors. We would like to thank Kevin Sofen from Water Is Life and Darley, Inc. for donating drip irrigation equipment and trees for planting, Johnny's Seeds and Native Seeds/SEARCH for donating seeds to the project, and Lowe's Home Improvement Store of Farmington for donating materials for the project

We hope to see you at the workshops! Please register by calling 505-326-4245, ext. 128.

Heal Your Land! Heal Your Wallet! Heal Your Body!