

# SURFING THE COMMUNITY



SURF is this latest project of growing sustainable urban food gardens, which will also serve as an educational space in more ways than one. Firstly, GUI hopes that their efforts will inspire urbanites to grow food plants in their homes and offices sustainably using permaculture. In addition, GUI would like to see more people come together to enjoy eco-aware gardens, as well as eventually empower communities with knowledge on building similar gardens in their neighbourhoods.

Along with the support of Just Green Pte Ltd, project manager Andy Tay, chief designer Chia Chia, founder and president Lai Hock and volunteers are building this community area that brings together herbs, vegetables, flowers, a water feature and a bird appreciation corner.

Andy is highly thrilled by the synergy that the project is creating.

He said, "SURF is something really special and unique especially in the urban context where we engage the power of community in coming together and building a unique oasis as ONE. We engage not only eco/green knowledge, but also sustainability in terms of food growing, animals, technology and utilisation as much as possible of recycled or free material to build this place, at the same time...making sure its aesthetically beautiful too!"

Andy also shared that SURF is very much at the heart of GUI.

"As of now, GUI focus is to make SURF as a showcase of sustainable principles and community spirit. It will be a very important step for GUI as we grow and evolve. Education is a very important part in GUI mission, and working on the SURF allows GUI to move in the right direction towards our vision."

Want to get involved? Contact Andy at 9366 4980 or [tayandy06@yahoo.com.sg](mailto:tayandy06@yahoo.com.sg)

<http://sustainableurbanfarms.wordpress.com/> 



**GROUND** -Up Initiative (GUI) is once again giving back to the community in the form of SURF, otherwise known as Sustainable URban Farms. While different from the usual work they do, this project fulfils the same values they stand for - To serve humanity and care for the earth.

Led by Tay Lai Hock, GUI is a local non-profit organisation that seeks to connect people to the earth and each other through volunteerism, more notably in sustainable activities involving farming. These activities were usually held in the Kranji countryside every other week, until an exciting opportunity to build an urban farm in Bottle Tree Park surfaced early this year.