

# Horses Return to Trenton to Kick Off Spring Gardening :: Princeton NJ House and Garden Feature

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Trenton, N.J. – The Isles Garden Support Network, helping community and school gardens grow since 1981, invites you to experience farming the old-fashioned way! On Tuesday, April 5, 2016, a team of horses from Howell Living History Farm will plow the community garden at 81 Chestnut Avenue (between Walnut Ave. and Greenwood Ave.) between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm. One of the largest of over 70 community and school gardens in Trenton, the Garden at Three Points has hosted the Howell Living History Farm plow teams for over 25 years. Operated by the Mercer County Park Commission, the Farm demonstrates plowing techniques in the U.S. at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and in many parts of the world today. Local students will participate in the hands-on event by helping direct the horses and learn about corn shelling, composting, and more. "While it may seem archaic to have the soil plowed by draft animals, there is resurgence in its use in sustainable farming. We can look to it as a model system of farming in harmony with nature, the land, and animals. We are proud to share this tradition with Howell Farm and our community. It reminds us of our agricultural heritage and reconnects us with the soil and the food that comes from it," says Jim Simon, Deputy Director of Urban Agriculture at Isles. Isles provides a range of training and support to people who grow their own fresh fruits and vegetables in seventy community and school gardens. Gardeners harvest more than 20,000 pounds of fresh produce each year, increasing Trenton's food supply and quality. This event is free and open to the public. In case of rain, it will be held on Thursday, April 7th. For more info, including how to join a community garden, please call 609-341-4724.

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