21 test-drives a replicable curriculum and methodology by turning 24 novices in to confident and competent urban farmers.
Food Sovereignty: Growing Urban Farmers and Farms
ECO's educational approach includes comprehensive practical hands-on experiences and one on one mentoring/training, a well-tested graphics-rich (rather than text-centric) culturally appropriate curriculum that includes all of the crop production, farm management, business, and management skills needed for trainees to be roll up their sleeves and farm on their own land at the end of the training.
Building upon current, six month-long 16 hour per/week apprenticeship, we offer a more robust and comprehensive training to:
1) Develop, evaluate and refine ECO's training materials and methodologies to produce a comprehensive and consolidated approach to training competent and confident urban farmers.
Amplifies, deepens and extends the knowledge and experience ECO City Farms earned over the past six years of offering intensive on-farm internships and apprenticeships, urban agriculture continuing education certification courses with Prince George's Community College, master gardening and master composting courses, nutrition education workshops, herbalism trainings and summer-long youth education programs.
2) Fortify our connections with area farms, farmers, institutions and organizations committed to sharing land and developing the resources required to expand and grow the local farming community.
3) Strengthen ECO's current apprenticeship and training programs to make them more robust, comprehensive, replicable, effective and sustainable.
4) Develop participant mentorship/support systems and connect with other farmer-based networks to provide long term support.
5) Create market connections for the participants by linking them to multi-farm CSA buyers and area Farmers Markets.
ECO City Farms
eco city farms
We grow great food, farms and farmers!