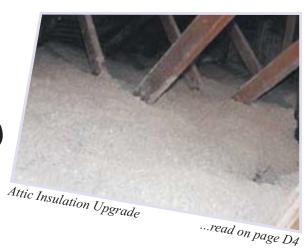
Pamorinda OUR HOMES

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Setting Up an Organic Vegetable Garden

By Sophie Braccini



Volunteers of all ages spend their Saturday morning working at the Garden Farm

Photos Shophie Braccini

full house of gardening enthusiasts gathered on Feb. 24 at the Moraga Library to hear experienced gardener Deva Rajan of Moraga Garden Farm and garden steward Julie Welch of Saint Mary College's Legacy Vegetable Garden discuss organic vegetable gardening.

Rajan's and Welch's garden settings are quite different: a north facing slope for Saint Mary's, a flat rich oneacre patch of soil for the Farm. Whatever their physical setting, however, both gardeners use neither pesticides nor herbicides, and create bountiful crops utilizing ancient proven methods to grow food that can be easily replicated in local gardens.

"We are very lucky to be using a piece of land next to a creek. It used to be a garden that supplied vegetables to the Moraga Ranch in the old days of Moraga," said Rajan as he explained about the fertile soil of his property.

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