What is the Chimborazo Native Food Project?

An effort to increase public awareness of preservation and restoration by supporting native plant communities in public and private spaces.

We spread our message through food sourced from native plants.

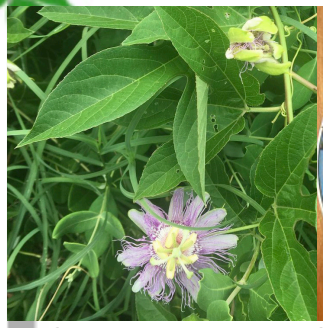
The city of Richmond granted volunteers permitted us to remove invasive Kudzu vines to start our community orchard. We have and are currently removing invasive vines through a non-chemical method called solarization.

Located by Church Hill Dog Park in Chimborazo Park.



Native Perennial Crops

We chose these species because they are indigenous to the Richmond Area.





Left is the Passionfruit vine (*Passiflora incarnata*), a resilient fruit and vegetable crop we plan to grow. Right is a plate of sauteed passion fruit greens, which will be available to park visitors.

We also plan to grow Common Evening-primrose (*Oenothera biennis*), known for its flavorful roots.

These are two examples of perennial fruits and vegetables we will produce for the community, but we need YOUR help to grow.

Ecological Restoration

Before our restoration, the invasive kudzu vine (*Pueraria montana*) overran our community orchard site.



We remove the invasive vines through a non-chemical method called solarization. Volunteers trap the vines under plastic sheeting during their three-month growing season. The first batch of solarization effectively removed 99% of the kudzu, leaving roughly 8,000 square feet for our agricultural goals. Solarization is an ongoing process that needs YOUR help.



Let's Work Together

We announce volunteer opportunities through our Instagram. Volunteer days began at 9:30 am on Sundays, twice a month. **@chimborazonativefood**

Make donations to the Chimborazo Native Food Project by accessing the QR code below. Or check out our website at **enrichmond.org/partners/chimborazo-native-food-project/.** Your donations make all the difference!

We always need bricks and treated lumber. Please reach out if you or someone you know has access to those supplies. **chimbonativefoods@gmail.com**

Please come down and see our work!

The Community Orchard

Our goal is to establish a public orchard composed of the trees, shrubs, and vines native to the Richmond area. Their fruit is free for anyone to pick. No paywall or membership is required.

Since January, we have planted:

7 Chickasaw plums (*Prunus angustifolia*)

16 American hazelnut (*Corylus americana*)

10 Fox grapevines (*Vitis labrusca*)

Common Evening-primrose (*Oenothera biennis*)

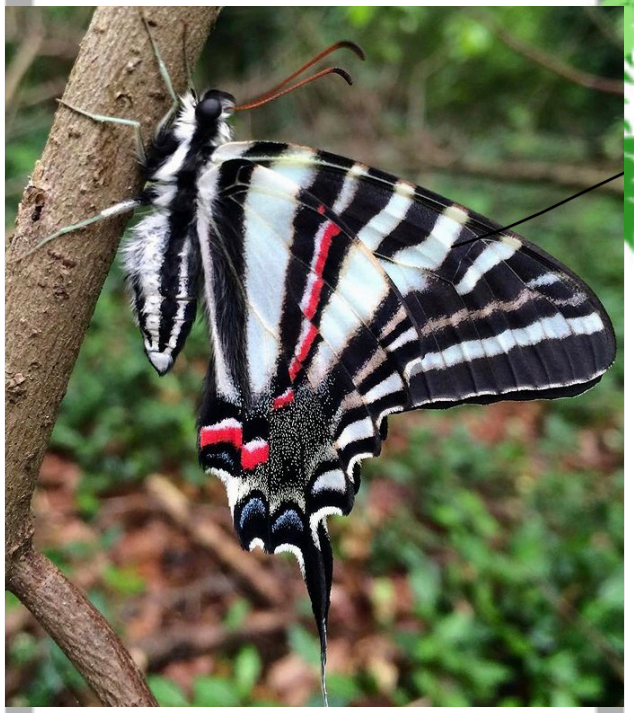
With more on the way! We will soon plant:

Canada serviceberry trees (*Amelanchier canadensis*)

Passionfruit vine (*Passiflora incarnata*)

The Chimborazo Native Food Project

A community effort to provide food to Richmond's East End residents by sourcing native plants.



Above is a Zebra swallowtail butterfly (*Protographium marcellus*) resting on a native Pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*) tree, the butterfly's larval host plant.