

# MUD ~ HIGHLIGHTS FROM A 30 YEAR HISTORY ~ 1981-2011



1976 • Bill McDorman purchases a house at 629 Phillips Street in Missoula, Montana. At the house, known as “Wild Willy’s Chicken Farm”, residents raise poultry and grows vegetables.

1979 • The lots at 615 and 625 Phillips Street are purchased and combined with 629.

1980 • High Mountain Seed Company (later Garden City Seeds) is formed to generate income off the land.

1981 • The Down Home Project is formed. DHP offers free lunch to anyone who helps in the garden.



1984 • DHP starts the Northside Community Gardens as a place to offer gardening classes for kids.

1985 • DHP offers “horticulture therapy” classes to bring gardening to low-income residents and seniors. Two years later, the program expands to include people with disabilities.

1986 • DHP is praised by the Reagan Administration in its “Up From Dependency” report on social programs.

1987 • MUD’s Tool Library gets started at 625 Phillips Street.

1990 • Board members create “work parties” to clean, repair, and remodel the site. The site is renamed the Missoula Urban Demonstration Project.

1990 • The “Coffee-to-Compost” program starts transporting grounds from local coffee shops to nearby community gardens using bicycle volunteers.

1996 • MUD creates Missoula’s first code-approved strawbale structure. MUD launches MUD Camp, a weeklong summer exploration of “the wild in our backyards”.

2006 • MUD hosts the first Annual Earth Day Celebration in Caras Park.

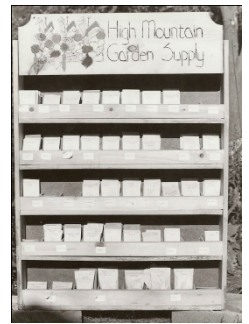


2007 • MUD wins the Transportation Best Practices Award from Missoula In Motion in the inaugural year of its Truck Share program.

2008 • MUD returns to its roots as a volunteer organization with a working board. Resident involvement once again becomes a key component of the organization.

2010 • The Youth Education Program (YEP!) is created to educate Missoula-area students with “fun, community-based sustainable living experiences”.

2011 • MUD celebrates 30 years with 30 workshops, the 5<sup>th</sup> Earth Day Celebration, a Reunion Mingle with founders, and a 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Garden Party on August 26<sup>th</sup>.



*Giving Missoula the tools for sustainable living since 1981*