

HUGELKULTUR WORKSHOP, 10/28/14

We began on a beautiful autumn day at 8:30 in the morning. Our goal was to learn the permaculture process called “hugelkultur” or “mound culture”. Ultimately, we plan on this being a pollinator garden, providing nurturance for migrating monarchs and other pollinators on the land called La Vista.



Eric and Crystal Stevens, our farmers, explained the fundamentals of permaculture and the hugelkultur process we would be using.



Participants began gathering materials right from the area around the terraces.
We gathered pine needles, leaves, twigs and branches.



Novice Dan



Novice Tom Franklin



Jack Lau, OMI and Novice Vincentt



Gathered materials which will mimic the forest floor.

The next step was to dig shallow trenches and place branches and twigs in them, followed by leaves and pine needles.



Novice Antonio



Novice Dan



Novice Antonio



Tom Horan, OMI



Rudy Nowakowski, OMI



Jack Lau laying newspaper as the foundation for one of the beds.



Oblate hospitality: Father Tom, Novices Vincent and Antonio provided water for thirsty workers.



Our successful workshop ended at 11:30! Terraces are now ready to settle and decompose throughout the winter. In the springtime we'll add six inches of soil and plant seeds of native flowers in the beds. The pollinators coming to La Vista will have plenty of nectar and a great habitat. We are grateful to have a beautiful place to live the Oblate priority of the "integrity of creation".