

April 3, 2023

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WorldMark by Wyndham Digs into Urban Permaculture Movement with 'Planting Seeds' Pilot in Portland

Vacation ownership club partners with master regenerative farmer to champion urban growing movement via interactive workshops that support mitigating climate change and food insecurity

PORTLAND, Ore.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Vacation club brand [WorldMark by Wyndham](#)® is launching *Planting Seeds*, a pilot program that introduces guests staying at [WorldMark Portland Waterfront Park](#) to the concept of urban permaculture through interactive workshops and an on-site vertical demo garden. Guests who participate in the free monthly workshop series will be empowered to live more holistically and reduce waste by embracing their surrounding ecosystems to grow their own food, at scale – no matter where it is they call home.

This press release features multimedia. View the full release here:
<https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20230403005052/en/>

Guests who participate in the free "Planting Seeds" monthly workshop series will be empowered to live more holistically and reduce waste by embracing their surrounding ecosystems to grow their own food, at scale – no matter where it is they call home. (Photo: Business Wire)

To oversee its new *Planting Seeds* program, WorldMark enlisted the expertise of master regenerative

urban farmer Daniel Campbell, owner and operator of Portland's PDX Farm, who installed a demo garden on the WorldMark Portland Waterfront Park outdoor patio. Campbell will use the edible garden during his monthly workshop series, and any food procured will be donated back to 14 local families who are part of PDX Farm, a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm.

"Access to healthy, organic food doesn't have to cost a fortune – and, through the application of permaculture principles, it's probably a lot closer than you might think," said Daniel Campbell, WorldMark's Urban Farming Educator. "Teaming up with WorldMark, I look forward to teaching travelers how to follow nature's lead and use whatever space they have at home to grow their own food, just like we're doing on this resort patio in the heart of downtown Portland."

Resort guests who participate in Campbell's free monthly workshops will learn everything from the basics of soil health, to DIY fruit pruning and pickling, to how to choose the right vegetable species for your climate. Based on participant experience levels, Campbell will also dive into expert topics to refine existing home practices, such as:

- **Nitrogen:** All plants need nitrogen, some more than others, but only certain plants make it. Learn the science behind these "nitrogen fixer" plants and how they can boost your soil's nitrogen levels for a more robust urban garden.
- **Biochar:** A hot topic among agriculturalists and home gardeners, biochar is one of the most effective ways to lock carbon into your soil. Learn why people are flocking to this agricultural practice, why it's important for soil regeneration and how you can make it yourself.

- Bee Hotel: You don't need much land at all to create your very own bee hotel on your back porch or in your garden. Learn the basics of native bee keeping and why when we say, "Save the bees," we mean *native* bees.

In a recent survey conducted by WorldMark, nearly 80% of American travelers report that sustainability is an important part of their travel experience. Amplifying the growing interest in reconnecting with nature in city settings, WorldMark's *Planting Seeds* project comes on the heels of the organization's larger [ESG strategy](#) and emphasizes the importance of local, organic food-sourcing and creating new pathways for communities to access healthy food from the Earth. Putting roots down in the city of Portland, WorldMark's goal is to expand this educational program to other urban destinations across its portfolio of 20+ metropolitan-based properties in the future.

"Now more than ever before, travelers are seeking meaningful vacation experiences that emphasize sustainable practices and satiate their desire to learn something new," said Annie Roberts, SVP Club & Owner Services at WorldMark by Wyndham. "Our *Planting Seeds* pilot program aims to do just that – taking steps to *plant seeds* in the minds of our visitors, empowering them with the knowledge and skills they need to create meaningful change in their homes, communities and environment. The wisdom gained through travel experiences like this, is the ultimate souvenir."

Urban farming is on the rise around the world as governments and residents look to promote nutritious diets, tackle environmental challenges and transform industrial cities, according to the Thomson Reuters Foundation. The UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme) recently stated that [farming-related methane](#) is one of the most crucial battles in the fight against climate change, and while urban gardening may seem small scale, rooftop farms and vertical gardens could prove crucial in fighting hunger in urban areas, based on research led by Arizona State University (ASU) and Google.

New reports of [vegetable scarcity](#) and [soaring food prices](#) (up 40 percent YoY) are increasing [concerns](#) regarding food insecurity. The ASU/Google research team reported, "Urban farms could supply almost the entire recommended consumption of vegetables for city dwellers, while cutting food waste and reducing emissions from the transportation of agricultural products...Urban agriculture may be critical to survival or a necessary adaptation to changing climate."

Campbell added, "The U.S. has more urban area available than any other country – 2 million hectares. Now is a crucial time to join the urban growing movement for carbon capture, food security, self-sustainability and global regeneration."

WorldMark by Wyndham's vacation club accommodations provide adventure travelers with more time to enjoy the little moments spent with loved ones. With comfortable suites featuring multiple bedrooms and separate living areas, as well as fully equipped kitchens in many locations, WorldMark resorts are the perfect setting for families to recharge and reconnect in exciting destinations, without sacrificing the comforts of home.

Travelers can book their WorldMark by Wyndham stay and learn more about the *Planting Seeds* program at WorldMarkByWyndham.com/plantingseeds.

Media Photos and B-Roll Package

[Available Here](#)

About WorldMark® by Wyndham

With [WorldMark® by Wyndham](#), families can celebrate the moments in-between point A and point B that turn ordinary trips into lifelong memories. WorldMark by Wyndham lets travelers enjoy spacious resort suites with the amenities of home, including fully equipped kitchens, distinct living and dining areas, separate bedrooms and a washer/dryer. WorldMark by Wyndham gives travelers the time and the space to focus on what matters most — sharing moments with the ones you love.

WorldMark by Wyndham operates under the [Wyndham Destinations](#) umbrella as part of Travel + Leisure Co. (NYSE:TNL) and its portfolio of travel businesses. As the world's largest vacation ownership and exchange business, the company features more than 245 resorts that offer a contemporary take on the timeshare model — including vacation club brands [Club Wyndham®](#), [WorldMark® by Wyndham](#), and [Margaritaville Vacation Club® by Wyndham](#).

For more information, visit worldmarkbywyndham.com. Connect with us on Twitter: [@WorldMark](#); Facebook: [@WorldMark](#); and Instagram: [@WorldMarkbyWyndham](#).

About Daniel Campbell, Master Regenerative Urban Farmer

Attending Warren Wilson College ignited Daniel Campbell's passion to live his life as sustainably as possible. He has worked on organic farms in Thailand and designed and managed a permaculture farm on Bainbridge Island. He achieved his Masters of Sustainability from Portland State University, as well as a master's degree in gardening from Oregon State University. Campbell is certified in permaculture design by Tryon Creek Farm, and for over a decade, he's owned and operated a sustainable landscape maintenance business, Neshamah's Garden, which evolved into PDX Farm. Today, PDX Farm operates as a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm; consisting of a community of individuals who pledge support to a farm operation so that the farmland becomes, either legally or spiritually, the community's farm, with the growers and consumers providing mutual support and sharing the risks and benefits. The farm currently serves approximately 14 families in the Portland area.

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Source: Travel + Leisure Co.