

The Ramapo College Masters in Sustainability Studies Program
Invites you to the Second Lecture in Our 2016 Series (<http://goo.gl/7haKPr>)

"Lessons of Sustainability: Voices of Key Practitioners"

AmpleHarvest.org: Making Food Waste into Plenty

Gary Oppenheimer

Founder, AmpleHarvest.org

Wednesday, February 10, 2016

SC 219 Friends Hall, 6-7:30 pm

Free and Open to the Public---Help Spread the Word

Gary Oppenheimer is the founder of the non-profit organization AmpleHarvest.org which uses information and technology to channel excess produce and fruit from gardens to food pantries nationwide. Not only is waste avoided and hungry families fed, but communities learn how to work together to take responsibility for the ethical challenges they face.

Gary Oppenheimer revels in challenges. In his first career, sitting in his home office on a boat moored in Manhattan, he revolutionized the electronic mail service industry, producing the first "ezine," and becoming a leader in volume of global sales. By this millennium, he was looking for new challenges. Struck by the disconnect between America's increasing hunger problem and the huge food waste evident in gardens he visited, including his own community garden, he devised a solution, AmpleHarvest.org Campaign. This nationwide effort launched in 2009 links America's 40+ million home gardeners with local food pantries eager for their excess fruits and produce. The results were remarkable, improving fresh food access at thousands of food pantries nationwide

Gary has been widely heralded for this achievement. He is a CNN Hero, a 2013 Purpose Prize Fellow, receiver of the Points of Light Tribute, named Huffington Post's "Greatest Person of the Day" and "2011 Game Changer" and winner of the Russell Berrie Foundation's "Making A Difference" award, the Glynwood 2011 "Wave of the Future" award, the 2012 Elfenworks "In Harmony With Hope" award and was an Echoing Green semifinalist. AmpleHarvest.org works closely with First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move! Initiative and she has cited the project in her talks. Gary's frequent lectures include a TED presentation and a Google Tech Talk. Drawn to the mountains of northern New Jersey, Gary is Master Gardener, Rutgers Environmental Steward, former community garden director, Environmental Commissioner in northern New Jersey, an avid gardener, hiker and long distance cyclist.

Those parking on campus should acquire a parking permit from the guard booth at the north entrance. For additional information or an advance parking permit, contact Professor Michael R. Edelstein at medelste@ramapo.edu.