**News from the Climate Justice-Rooted and Rising Team**

**Earth Day Fair this Saturday, April 22, 11a.m.-3 p.m. Grand Marais Community Center**

**Maple and nannyberry seedlings available**

The team ordered bundles of red maple and nannyberry seedlings for the churchyard plantings.

They should arrive on May 11. There are more items than we need; the extras will be available on a first come-first serve basis. Contact Suzanne Weber to get your name on the list.

The church has purchased a covered compost bin for food scraps and yard trimmings. When it arrives and the weather warms, it will be installed in a convenient spot. We hope to use the finished compost to fertilize the planter boxes and other plantings around the church.

**Community Garden Planter Boxes**

The team is finalizing plans to permanently install and add soil to the planter boxes we plan to offer to the Community Gardener program. We expect to complete this by early May. We have received a request to enclose the boxes with a high fence to resist predation by the deer, and are considering the best way to do this.

**Rain Garden Maintenance**

The Rooted and Rising group’s Rain Garden Project will resume Monday, May 1, at 5 p.m., at the library rain garden, depending on weather and the ground firming up. First meeting will be to start cleaning it up for the season. The summer project will be to finish cleaning up the rain garden in front of the Gunflint Train sign and rock wall. Plans are to revamp the rain garden and plant a native pollinator garden on the surrounding area. All are welcome from our congregation as well as the community at large to continue this work.

Rain gardens are useful to prevent contaminated water and silt from flowing into lakes and streams, degrading water quality and polluting water with toxic chemicals.