

## Home notes

# Step-by-step plans to a total garden

Register wire services

Some books will teach you how to grow a vegetable garden. Some books will tell you how to cook the harvest. But it's a rare book that guides you through the entire process, from seed packet to serving dish.

"Grocery Gardening: Planting, Preparing and Preserving Fresh Food" (Cool Springs Press, \$19.95) does.

The book represents the work of four people who share a love of gardening and food: lead author Jean Ann Van Krevelen and collaborators Amanda Thomsen, Robin Ripley and Teresa O'Connor. Interestingly, even though they'd never met in person, they managed to share and organize their collective wisdom in just 60 days.

The book covers the basics of gardening, offers recipes for the fruits, vegetables and herbs that might be grown in back-

yard gardens and teaches how to preserve that yield to extend the enjoyment of the harvest. It can help gardeners choose crops that are more likely to grow well in their gardens and more likely to be eaten.

### Help minding the dog:

Your dog can't tell you the last time it was fed, but Dog-e-Minder can.

With the press of a button, the device records the time and date when the pet is walked, fed or medicated. It also stores your dog's name and your phone number, so it doubles as an ID tag.

The device can be attached to a key chain or collar and has a waterproof casing that the manufacturer says will stand up to swimming and pet play.

Dog-e-Minder is available in four colors (black, blue, pink and red) and can be ordered for \$19.95 plus shipping at [www.dogeminder.com](http://www.dogeminder.com).

