

Community/School Gardens

Schools and communities can work together to share land and develop a shared garden space. When groups formalize such a relationship, it's called a joint-use agreement. Joint-use gardens have the potential to:

- Increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables
- Help community members save money spent on fresh produce
- Provide opportunities to share fruit and veggie nutrition information, recipes, and cooking skills
- Increase physical activity
- Connect people of different ages, races, incomes, and ethnicities
- Build community connections
- Reclaim and beautify abandoned property
- Teach business and life skills
- Provide donations of surplus produce to food shelters



Resources to Help Develop a Community/School Garden

- ***Eat Smart, Move More North Carolina: Growing Communities through Gardens*** (12 pages)
Eat Smart, Move More North Carolina
<http://www.eatsmartmovemorenc.com/Gardens/Gardens.html>
 - Leadership and management tips
- ***Establishing Land Use Protections for Community Gardens*** (16 pages)
National Policy and Legal Analysis Network (NPLAN)
<http://www.phlpnet.org/healthy-planning/products/establishing-land-use-protections-community-gardens>
 - Model comprehensive plan language to protect and expand community gardens
 - Model zoning language to establish community gardens as an approved use
 - Community garden policy language
 - ***A Fact Sheet for Advocates*** (2 pages)
- ***Cultivating Community Gardens: The Role of Local Government in Creating Healthy, Livable Neighborhoods*** (4 pages) Local Government Commission, Sacramento, California
http://www.lgc.org/freepub/docs/community_design/fact_sheets/community_gardens.pdf
- ***American Community Gardening Association*** (website) Offers two-day leadership-development training and suggests how to raise funds for training.
<http://communitygarden.org>
- ***CitySprouts***(website) Schoolyard gardening in public schools, Cambridge, MA
<http://www.citysprouts.org>
- ***Got Dirt? Garden Tool Kit for Implementing Youth Gardens*** (62 pages)
Wisconsin Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity Prevention Program
http://dhs.wi.gov/health/physicalactivity/pdf_files/GotDirt_09.pdf
- ***University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension***(website) Information and links on starting and maintaining a community food garden.
http://extension.unh.edu/HCFG/Start_Garden.htm
http://extension.unh.edu/HCFG/Home_Com_Garden.htm

Gardening Experts in Your County

For expert advice on gardening, contact the Agriculture Educator at your UNH Cooperative Extension County Office. Find a local expert at <http://extension.unh.edu/Counties/Counties.htm>.

