

Partner Garden Information



At Growing Gardens, we understand how to help communities grow!

WHO: Our Home Gardens program partners with communities that are:

- 75% or more low-income (qualify for SNAP, WIC, and the Free/Reduced Price Lunch)
- Located within Portland, Gresham or Milwaukie
- Dedicated to creating a sustainable and inclusive garden program
- Demonstrated capacity to partner with an outside organization

WHAT: Our Partner Garden program supports organizations in creating lasting garden programs that cultivate fresh food access, health and wellness, community-building, inter-cultural sharing, and environmental health. This includes:

1. Garden program planning in collaboration with community stakeholders
2. Garden design and construction, including testing for lead contamination, and
3. Education through:
 - a. Seasonal consulting sessions
 - b. One on one mentorship
 - c. Copies of our Home Gardening Manual and Youth Grow Lesson Manual
 - d. On-site classes
4. Gardening supplies including seeds, starts, soil, tools, fertilizer, and more!

WHY: In order to harvest the benefits of fresh food access, health and wellness, community-building, inter-cultural sharing, and environmental health, a garden program needs careful planning, tending and ongoing management in order to thrive for years to come. Each community is unique. Our Home Gardens program works within existing organizational systems and programs to build long-lasting garden programs.

HOW: Our knowledgeable staff have years of experience in building programs with community partners. We will work closely with you to determine what type of program will best meet the needs of your community. We require that partner organizations commit to the following:

1. Providing a lead staff person to assist in the stakeholder engagement and planning process
2. Assisting with community engagement and introductions to key stakeholders
3. Providing space, outreach, interpretation, and support for meetings and workshops
4. Helping secure funding, donations, resources and project approval
5. Establish position (within existing staff or paid stipend) responsible for coordinating on-going tasks for overall garden functioning and maintenance eg: waitlist, seasonal work parties, conflict resolution, yearly supplies (compost, seeds, starts, fertilizer).

COST: Depending on the size and scope of your project and needs we can help you determine the cost of your project, both start-up and ongoing. We will work collaboratively with you to fund-raise for the project, typically through grants.

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2203 NE Oregon Street, Portland OR 97232 (p) 503.284.8420 (f) 503.280.0603 www.growing-gardens.org
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Partnership Options & Details:

Partnership Model Example – see below for Menu of Options

Organization	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Growing Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial meetings with key personnel • Outreach and facilitation for community meetings • Facilitate Garden Committee meetings • Design and build garden- provide lead testing • Provide seeds, plant starts and tools • Secure funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide training and support for Garden Coordinator • Design garden program with seasonal timeline • Establish garden systems (for waitlist, volunteers) • Recruit volunteers • Compile Legacy Manual (with notes, resources, partnerships) • Provide seeds, plant starts and compost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide consulting and support for Garden Coordinator • Assist Garden Coordinator in securing seeds, plant starts, and compost • Facilitate smooth transfer of responsibilities
Partner Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support community outreach and engagement • Introductions to key stakeholders • Coordinate Garden Meetings quarterly • Create and implement program goals • Develop maintenance and master plan for garden site • Secure funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hire and support community leader as Garden Coordinator • Coordinate Garden Meetings quarterly • Carry out maintenance plan • Implement goals • Secure on-going funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Garden Coordinator to coordinate on-site programming • Carry out maintenance plan • Implement goals, etc. • Secure on-going funding

MENU of Options for Partnership

Growing Gardens partnership may consist of:

Garden Program Planning

- Provide assistance/facilitation to develop the Garden Committee
- Facilitate visioning, goal setting and planning steps with Garden Committee

Garden Design/Building/Revitalizing

- Consultation and garden design
- Provide soil lead testing of garden site

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- Provide garden supplies (compost bins, vegetable plant starts, seeds, tools, compost)
- Provide resources on where to find additional donations for supplies
- Co-coordinate work parties to build and maintain garden

Garden Education

- Provide on-site workshop(s) for staff and families (topics may include: Gardening 101, Seed Starting, Composting, Winter Gardening, Seed Starting, Parent/Child workshop). Scheduling for these workshops begins in early January of each year.
- Provide seasonal consultations for Garden Committees to ensure that basic practices are being implemented in order to ensure a healthy and productive garden
- Provide on-site workshop/training for educators (Gardening Basics, Connecting Curriculum to Garden activities) if applicable
- Help with curriculum alignment if applicable

Other

- Help with media press releases and publication of garden events and projects
- Provide letters of support for grant applications

Partner organization will commit to the following activities:

Develop a Garden Steering Committee

- Identify/recruit Garden Committee that must include diverse and representative community stakeholders
- Identify staff contact person who will communicate with Growing Gardens staff
- Hold Garden Steering Committee meetings at least quarterly (4 times per year)
- Define and work towards program objectives & goals

Facilitate participation in garden program

- Coordinate garden related outreach (workshops, work parties, volunteer opportunities, supply distribution, etc.)
- Coordinate with Growing Gardens to host workshops on site
- Advertise workshops via fliers, newsletters, auto-dialer etc.
- Designate a paid person to manage garden policies, program waitlist and enrollment and participant conflict

Garden Maintenance

- Organization will be responsible for securing and paying for water usage in the garden
- Organization will be in charge of maintaining garden and landscape infrastructure necessary to a safe and productive garden space
- Coordinate with Growing Gardens to host at least 4 work parties during the first two years

Other

- Include Growing Gardens as a partner on website and in media press releases
- Support Growing Gardens with letters of support for grant applications

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