



# LETTUCE GROW

## LETTUCE GROW'S MISSION

We provide educational and gardening experiences to people who are incarcerated and leaving incarceration in the state of Oregon.

Youth and adults, who are incarcerated, are one of the least served populations in our society.

By bringing gardening and gardening education to them we create positive experiences which can aid an inmate's successful reentry into society.

## WHAT WE DO

We provide the following classes for inmates:

- Oregon Food Bank's Seed to Supper Class
- Oregon State University Extension Service -Sustainable Gardening Class
- Lettuce Grow's Greenhouse Management Class
- Plant Disease Diagnostic
- Culinary Arts Class

Along with offering classes, our volunteers work side by side with the inmates in the correctional institution's gardens, providing hands on practical gardening instruction and friendship to incarcerated individuals.

In youth facilities, as well as teaching classes, we build garden boxes which give the youth offenders the opportunity to have the full gardening experience, which will enhance their appreciation of gardening and the natural world.

## HOW ARE WE DOING?

Over 1300 inmates have graduated from the OSU Sustainable Gardening Class, 169 have graduated from the Greenhouse Management Class we developed in conjunction with Chemeketa CC and 430 have received certificates of completion from the Oregon Foodbank's Seed to Supper class.

Upon successful completion of the Sustainable Gardening class, our students receive a Certificate of Home Horticulture, a recognized job credential in the state of Oregon. Two years ago we introduced our new Greenhouse Management class for adults and older juveniles which also provide a certificate which can be used as a job credential.

The Oregon Department of Corrections recognizes Lettuce Grow as one of the most successful and cost-effective programs offered to inmates. Most importantly, while the inmate recidivism rate in the United States is over 75% and in the State of Oregon it is 30%. Inmates who have been through our gardening program have a 4% recidivism rate.



In 2020, Lettuce Grow worked with prison gardens to produce over 365,536 lbs. of food for prison kitchens, a benefit to the institutions and the health of inmates. 10,340 lbs. of food went to foodbanks and community organizations across the state.

In 2018 we took over management of the garden at Coffee Creek Correctional facility we are looking forward to expanding the gardening and creating a meditation garden and a seating area in the minimum women's facility and starting classes in the women's medium facility.

## WHAT DO WE WANT TO DO IN THE FUTURE?

- Create a gardening curriculum adapted for youth offenders in K8-K12 facilities complete with tools for working with these specific populations.
- Help provide adults coming out of the justice system with jobs or apprenticeships in horticultural or related fields.
- Help provide for the wellbeing of family members of incarcerated individuals by parting up with other support agencies.

## WHERE WE WORK

### ADULT FACILITIES

Columbia River Correctional - Portland  
Coffee Creek Correctional - Wilsonville  
Oregon State Correctional - Salem  
South Fork Forest camp - Tillamook  
Power River Correctional - Baker City  
Snake River Correctional - Ontario  
Deer Ridge Correctional - Madras  
Two Rivers Correctional - Umatilla  
Eastern Oregon State Correctional - Pendleton  
Warner Creek Correctional - Lakeview  
Federal Correctional Facility - Sheridan

### YOUTH FACILITIES

Maclaren Youth Facility - Woodburn

### TRANSITIONAL FACILITIES:

NorthWest Regional Reentry Center - Portland



## HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR WORK

- Donate at [www.growing-gardens.org](http://www.growing-gardens.org)
- Volunteer to teach a class or work with the inmates in the gardens at one of these correctional institutes