

# 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](http://www.lgc.org/freepub/docs/community_design/fact_sheets/community_gardens.pdf)
- ***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](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/Start_Garden.htm)  
[http://extension.unh.edu/HCFG/Home\\_Com\\_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>.

