

FIRST STEPS TO STARTING A COMMUNITY GARDEN

Toledo GROWS Community Garden Resources

Contact Toledo GROWS at any time for technical assistance in garden planning

1. Organize a meeting of at least eight interested people
 - What is the need/want for this garden?
 - Is there an existing garden that we should help instead?
2. Form a planning committee
 - Determine who will be assisting long term and/or short term
 - Create a start up task list and timeline
 - Form subcommittees if needed
3. Identify all your resources and list your assets
 - What organizations can assist (Toledo GROWS, OSU Extension, Land Bank, Etc.)
 - Other community gardeners
 - Folks with skills (Carpentry, fundraising, art, etc.)
4. Choose a Site
 - Determine the size that is most practical for your use
 - Ensure it meets the needs of the garden
 - ◇ 8 hours of sun, water source, who owns the land, etc.
5. Determine start up and long term expenses
 - Get estimates on cost for garden tools, wood for raised beds, soil, etc.
 - Plan fundraisers and/or approach sponsors
6. Prepare and develop the site
 - Test the soil and check for needed amendments
 - Decide on in-ground plots or raised beds
 - Site cleanup or any other practical needs for your space
 - Ensure space between plots/beds is sufficient for mowers, wheelbarrows, etc.
 - Plan for children with kids zones or play areas
 - Consider storage and compost areas
7. Determine rules and schedules
 - Put all rules into writing
 - Daily and weekly maintenance schedules
 - Ensure everyone knows their role
8. Help members keep in touch with each other
 - Schedule weekly workday
 - Make sure you have contact information for all gardeners
 - Keep things fun with regular gatherings and celebrations



Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our services

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Visit us on the web at
www.toledogrows.org