

Nutrition in the Garden

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Garden Curricula

Seven suggested garden curricula added to the Arizona Nutrition Network list.

Three are on SNAP ED Connection; one is part of Junior Master Gardener.

Incorporate approved Nutrition and Physical Activity messages.

School and Community Gardens

Cropping up everywhere!

Lots of opportunity for collaboration and intergenerational wellness activities.

Multiple agencies have guidelines/resources for school gardens.

School and Community Garden Collaboration

Started in January 2012 to bring agencies together to ensure consistent guidelines and support.

Arizona Department of Health Services

Arizona Department of Education

University of Arizona College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

ADHS - SNAP Ed, Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, Environmental Services

ADE - Farm to School Program, School Garden Program

UA, CALS - Master Gardener Program, Ag Literacy Program, Community Garden Program

Next Step for Collaboration

Create an Arizona School Garden Network -

- information clearinghouse
- Support for School personnel, nutrition educators, families, volunteers and community members
- encouragement for the creation and maintenance of safe and healthy gardens in every school.

What's Happening

School Garden Sanitarian hired by ADHS

Purpose: to support and authorize school gardens to use produce as approved source in school food service

Bridge the gap between school food service and local health authorities (county health departments)

School Garden Letter

Written by ADHS School
Garden Sanitarian to
Supporters of School
Gardens to explain
Certification

*To School Administrators,
Teachers, Nutrition Educators,
School Food Service Directors*

Instructions for schools
that wish to use produce
from school garden in
school food service - as
Approved Source.

Certification of School Gardens

Recognized by Local Health Authorities

Based on School Garden Guidelines

ADHS has new School Garden web page for this purpose



- Office of Environmental Health Home
- Food Safety and Environmental Services Home
- AZ Sanitarian's Council
- Arizona Food Safety Regulations
- Home Baked and Confectionary Goods
- Food Equipment Cleaning & Sanitizing
- Behavioral Health Facility Food Establishment License Information
- Safe Food Temperatures
- Safe Food Handling in Your Home
- Food Processing & Food Handling Basics
- School Garden Program
- Forms
- Annual Reports

Food Safety & Environmental Services
School Garden Program



Essentials to serve fresh produce in a cafeteria from the garden.

[Program Guidelines](#)



Learn how to bring fresh produce from the school garden to the cafeteria.

[Request Site Visit](#)



Learn how to handle & harvest food properly from the school garden.

[Food & Garden Safety](#)



Find answers to some of the most frequently asked questions.

[FAQs](#)

The goal of the School Garden Program is to enable fresh produce to be safely served in school cafeterias from their on-site school garden. The Arizona Department of Health Services School Garden Program will help your school garden meet the requirements of approved source from the Arizona Food Code.

- Additional Resources



School Gardens wishing to be certified must:

Adhere to School Garden Guidelines

*Test Soil for Lead
(free through ADHS lab)*

*Submit required forms (on website)
including request for Site Visit*

Site Visit/Certification

After Sanitarian reviews documents,
a site visit will be scheduled.

If all criteria met, one year
certificate issued.

County Health Departments
recognize this as acknowledgment
of a Safe Approved Source for
School food service.

Remember...

Certification is only required for those schools that wish to use the produce grown in their school gardens in their cafeteria.

Safe Gardening is good practice for everyone

Free classes are available through the U of A Cooperative Extension.



ReSources for School
and
Community Gardens

Arizona Master Gardeners
(including me!)

Arizona Department of
Education

University of Arizona, CALS

and last but not least.....

Arizona Nutrition Network

eatwellbewell.org

*Collaboration between
community partners
grows the best gardens!*