

Creating and Sustaining Your School (or After School) Garden

A One-Day Workshop for Developing School Garden Programs

Presented by UCCE Master Gardeners of Tulare & Kings Counties



When: Saturday, November 7, 2009, 8:45 am – 3:00 pm

Where: Sundale Elementary School – 13990 Ave 240 (corner of Prosperity Ave & Rd 140), Tulare

Cost: \$10.00 per Team or \$5.00 per Individual - payable at the door (*covers costs of materials*)
(Cash or checks accepted - payable to **UC Regents**)

This workshop is designed for adults who want to start school or after-school gardens. School Garden Teams of 2-3 people must include at least one teacher and can also include parents, volunteers, school administrators, or other adult personnel. Individuals from a school/church/organization are encouraged to attend, however we strongly suggest you bring a couple of other interested adults with you and form a team. School gardens involve teaching and learning and our workshop is designed to show how easy it can be to do both. Snacks, beverages, and a light lunch will be provided. *Please dress for indoor and outdoor activities.*

Workshop Goals - Participants will:

- Share ideas for designing and using educational school gardens
- Practice basic gardening skills
- Learn tips for effective outdoor classroom management
- Understand the importance of teamwork to start and sustain a school garden
- Find out how to get more resources for successful school gardens
- Begin to plan their school garden program

Registration

Enrollment is limited to 30 people (10 to 15 Teams) on a first come, first served basis.

Deadline for registration is **Wednesday, November 4th**.

To register online: Visit the Master Gardener website at cetulare.ucdavis.edu.

Click on Master Gardener, then Activities & Events, see School Garden Workshop - November 2009

To register by fax: Send registration form to fax number (559) 685-3319.

To register by phone: Call the UCCE Office (559) 684-3300 during business hours (M-F, 8 am - 5 pm)

*This program is endorsed by the CA School Garden Network,
Tulare County Farm Bureau Education Committee, Kings County Farm Bureau, Tulare County Office of Education, and
the University of California Statewide Master Gardener Program.*

School Garden Workshop – Registration Form

To Register: Email registration information to cetulare.ucdavis.edu OR FAX to (559) 685-3319 OR CALL (559) 684-3300.

Cost is \$10.00 per team OR \$5.00 per individual, payable at the door. Cash or checks are accepted (payable to **UC Regents**).

Team teacher _____ Team teacher phone _____

Team teacher E-mail _____

Other team members' _____

Name of school _____ School location (city) _____



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WORKSHOP AGENDA

November 7, 2009

Sundale Elementary School - Tulare, CA
13990 Ave 240 (corner of Prosperity Ave & Rd 140)

- 8:45 – 9:00 am **Registration**
- 9:00 – 9:30 **Welcome and Introductions** (indoors)
Focus on State Standards
- Educational uses of school gardens
- 9:30 – 10:00 **Resources for Successful School Garden Programs**
- Building a support network
 - Access to funding
- 10:00 - 10:30 **Out in the Garden** (outside)
- Garden activity: "Six of One, Half Dozen of the Other:"
 - Outdoor classroom management
- 10:30 - 10:45 **Break**
- 10:45 – 12:15 pm **Plant a Math Garden** (outside)
Soil and bed preparation
- Seeding and transplanting
 - Bed types and construction
- Grow with Science**
- Watering
 - Weed management
 - Critters and critter control
- 12:15 -12:45 **Lunch** (View our Resources Table)
- 12:45 – 1:20 **Designing Your School Garden – An Art Experience** (outside)
- Garden scavenger hunt: Where are we and what do we see?
 - Elements of garden design
- 1:20 – 1:40 **Planning Your School Garden Program**
- Common garden tasks throughout the year
 - Setting goals and planning next steps
- 1:40 – 2:15 **Choosing Plants and Planting Times**
- Understanding zones and growing seasons
 - Good plant choices for school gardens
- 2:15 – 2:45 **Q & A**
- 2:45 – 3:00 pm **Closing Evaluation**





Why Should Schools Have School Gardens?

“Learning comes alive in a school garden! All subjects can be taught in this dynamic hands-on environment. From reading to science, math to nutrition, it’s all possible.”

California Academic Content Standards are growing, too! Everything we know about good teaching is magnified in a school garden: student engagement, meaningful, relevant lessons, use of manipulative, cooperative learning, and exploration and discovery.

There is no better environment than the garden in which to plant the seeds of knowledge, experience the joy of learning, and harvest a bountiful crop of lifelong learners.”

--- Martha Deichler, Principal, Vista Square Elementary, Chula Vista, CA

Increased Academic Performance/Higher Test Scores

Numerous studies have proven that garden-based education improves academic performance and some of the strongest academic gains appear to be in the areas of math and science. Overall improvement on standardized achievement tests has been well documented.

- Science achievement of students who participated in a hands-on gardening program was higher than that of students who only engaged in classroom curriculum. (*Klemmer et al. 2005*)
- Participants in a school garden program in California experienced significant gains in overall GPA in math and science, and improvement on a standardized psychosocial questionnaire. (*Murphy 2003*)
- Garden-based learning associated with increased scores in science achievement tests in a controlled study. (*Smith and Motesbocke 2005*)
- A broad study of 40 schools across the U.S. shows that environment-based education curriculum results in better performance on standardized achievement tests. (*Lieberman & Hoody 1998*)
- Involvement with school nature areas has direct relationship with improved academics. (*Bell 2001*)

Educational Resources are Abundant

A Child’s Garden of Standards, a resource that links CA standards to garden activities from various learning guides, downloadable online. <http://www.cde.ca.gov/Ls/nu/he/documents/childsgarden.pdf>

CA School Garden Network, represents a variety of state agencies, private companies, educational institutions and non-profit organizations all dedicated to the mission of creating and sustaining gardens in every willing school in California. The Network serves as a central organization to distribute school garden resources and support throughout the state. <http://californiaschoolgardennetwork.org>

Math in the Garden, features hands-on math activities for grades K-8 to use in the garden.

The Growing Classroom, a comprehensive, easy to use text that supports science.

TWIGS, easy to use text for primary grades that connects growing food and eating to nutrition.

CA Foundation for AG in the Classroom, specific lesson plans have been developed for use by primary grades through high school in the areas of language, reading, science and math using agricultural examples. All plans and more information are downloadable online. Main goal is to increase understanding of agriculture and where food comes for California’s educators and students through the CA Curriculum Guidelines for Agriculture Literacy Awareness. <http://www.cfaitc.org>

Teachers Like School Gardens Too!

84% Teachers exposed to school gardens think gardens help students learn more effectively.

73% Teachers surveyed think experiential learning in gardens is effective. (*Skelly and Bradley 2000*)



University of California
Cooperative Extension

County of Tulare

Master Gardener
Volunteer Program
of Tulare-Kings Counties



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Web Site: <http://cetulare.ucdavis.edu>

September 28, 2009

Dear Teacher, School Administrator, or Youth Coordinator:

Perhaps you have been wondering if a School (or after School) Garden would benefit your school?

The Master Gardeners are offering a Workshop specifically designed for you on Saturday, November 7th at the Sundale Elementary School in Tulare. **"Creating and Sustaining Your School (After School) Garden"** Workshop will inform and motivate you to start a garden in your school. We have a FUN agenda planned and the time will fly by!

Enclosed are the Workshop Registration Form, the Agenda, and some school garden facts. This workshop is also posted on our website: <http://cetulare.ucdavis.edu> just click on Master Gardener Program and then School Garden Workshop.

Besides connecting gardening to the "CA Academic Content Standards" we will be sharing information about local organizations and agencies that also support school and after school gardens. There are several sources of information and garden assistance as well as funding opportunities.

Cathy Iseman and Pam Brown are the Co-chairs of the MG School Garden Committee who have organized this workshop. Since Master Gardeners are Volunteers, we ask you to direct your questions to Mary Ann Lawrence, MG Program Coordinator, at the UCCE Tulare County Office at 684-3343.

PLEASE SHARE THIS INVITATION with someone in your school or organization, who might be interested in starting a garden to enhance youth learning.

We hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Michelle Le Strange
Farm & Master Gardener Advisor, Tulare & Kings Counties

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PS Now is not convenient for you to attend a school garden workshop?

Please call or fax us the enclosed form, if you wish to remain on our Email/mail list.