

The Columbus Green Patch

Registration for the [Harvest Awards](#) Ceremony is open now! | [VIEW IN BROWSER](#)



Meet a Community Garden

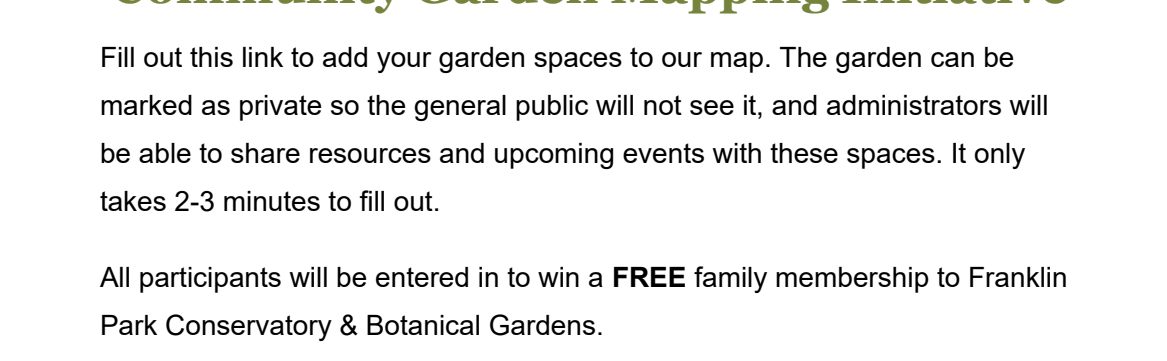
CELC Community Garden

The Columbus Early Learning Center (CELC) Community Garden is dedicated to improving food access and educational opportunities for families at the Champion Learning Center and the surrounding community. Our mission is to introduce healthy, fresh food into our community's diet while providing an outdoor learning environment for our students. We are proud to have received the Harvest Award in 2023 for Education Garden of the Year.

Each of the two preschool classrooms at the Champion Learning Center has its own 3'x 5' garden plot outside the classroom windows, allowing preschoolers to easily observe their garden's daily growth. The children regularly visit the garden to water plants, harvest produce, and engage with the garden, encouraged to ask questions about their sensory experiences.

The CELC Community Garden incorporates various educational elements from the curriculum. Preschoolers practice measuring the height of sunflowers and weighing cucumbers, while also using vegetables for color lessons. Teachers lead science experiments where children slice open produce like cherry tomatoes to observe what's inside.

Daily care of the garden deepens the children's understanding of where food comes from and the time involved in growing it. They enjoy sharing the harvest with classmates and taking produce home to their families, fostering collaboration and a sense of accomplishment. Overall, the garden provides a meaningful, long-term learning experience that engages children at the Champion Early Learning Center.



Community Garden Mapping Initiative

Fill out this link to add your garden spaces to our map. The garden can be marked as private so the general public will not see it, and administrators will be able to share resources and upcoming events with these spaces. It only takes 2-3 minutes to fill out.

All participants will be entered in to win a **FREE** family membership to Franklin Park Conservatory & Botanical Gardens.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Communal Garden Class

CHECK OUT THE FREE COMMUNAL GARDEN CLASS SERIES

This free class series is open to all in the community and is part of larger Conservatory initiatives that build capacity, knowledge and enthusiasm for the joys of gardening. To learn more about all the ways that the Conservatory supports community gardeners, check out our Growing to Green program and discover how you can get involved!

Fall Garden Clean Up: October 15, 6-7:30 pm

To leave the leaves or not- end of season garden clean-up can seem daunting, but it doesn't have to be! Create a checklist of the major fall garden tasks you must do to set yourself up for success next spring while learning about incorporating sustainable garden practices such as leaving leaf litter. Not only will it save you the task of raking endlessly, but there are benefits to your yard and local wildlife by letting the leaves lie.

[LEARN MORE](#)



2024 Harvest Awards Ceremony

Join us as we celebrate the hard work and dedication that has gone into our gardening initiatives this past year. The ceremony will feature special awards recognizing outstanding gardeners and projects, inspiring stories from our community, and a chance to connect with fellow gardeners.

Event Details

Date: Thursday, September 26th, 2024

Time: 5-7 pm

Location: [The Wells Barn](#)

This is a wonderful opportunity to gather, share experiences, and toast to a year of growth and success in our gardens. We hope you can join us!

Please RSVP by **September 19th** to ensure we have enough seating and refreshments for everyone.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



Conservatory Farmers Market

3:30-6:30PM WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4th & 11th IN THE WELLS BARN PARKING LOT

Our last two market of the season will be held on September 4th and 11th.

Vendors offer a mix of local produce, baked goods, specialty foods, handmade items, and health & beauty products. EBT is accepted for all qualifying purchases and incentive dollars through the Produce Perks Columbus program for fresh produce are offered for all EBT participants.

Markets will occur if it rains but will be canceled in the case of dangerous weather:

high winds, lightning, or extreme heat.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Community Connections Garden Volunteer Program

As summer gradually gives way to the crisp air and vibrant colors of fall, we are excited to reflect on the wonderful impact our Community Connections program has had this year. If you're looking for a fulfilling way to engage with your community, there's no better opportunity than volunteering in our community garden spaces across Central Ohio!

A Year of Gardening and Partnership

This year, we are proud to announce that our volunteers contributed to 21 different gardens! Our team engaged in various rewarding activities, including filling raised beds, weeding, planting seeds, making flower bouquets, and harvesting. Each task contributed to the larger mission of fostering thriving, sustainable gardens that beautify our community and provide fresh, local produce for the community.

Our journey is made even more special thanks to our incredible partners. We've collaborated with organizations such as Kroger, Seeds of Caring, Provide, and Scotts Miracle-Gro Company. We are also very thankful to the many internal partners including Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens Women's Board, Teen Corps participants, and the Community Outreach and Education Department. Their support has been instrumental in our successes, allowing us to extend our reach and enhance our program.

How to Get Involved

Volunteer slots will open again in April 2025. No previous gardening experience is required—just a willingness to learn and a desire to connect with fellow community members.

Please reach out to [Lauren Preston](#) if you are interested in hosting Community Connections Volunteers in your garden in 2025!



Sustainable Gardening in Columbus

Let our local experts help make your landscape - and your community - a place of renewable, sustainable food and beauty!

Part 1: Adding (Native) Edible Plants In Your Landscape. What if we didn't need to choose between vegetable and pollinator gardens? If we improve our soils and local biodiversity while sustaining ourselves and our communities, we can create oases of beauty, wildlife support, and food production.

Part 2: Partnership Gardening. Individuals change the world with their ideas and actions. Working with others magnifies that effort! Learn how Adrienne took an idea -- and through collaborative/collective action -- helped build a network of community gardens and farm markets in Columbus.

Part 3: Matrix Gardens Overview. The matrix system provides a framework that simplifies plant selection, layout, and installation. Modeled on natural plant communities and relationships, matrix gardens can be endlessly expanded and repeated according to your requirements. Once Michael shares the basic concepts -- you'll be unstoppable! Experienced gardeners know that the cooler days of autumn are an optimal time to plan and install new garden elements. Don't miss this OPPORTUNITY!

Date: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 10 AM - 12 PM

Location: The Grange Insurance Audubon Center, 505 W Whittier St, Columbus, OH 43215.

Workshop fee: \$25 for individuals, \$20 for 2+ registrations.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Local Gardening Events

FIND OUT WHAT IS HAPPENING FOR GARDENERS IN CENTRAL OHIO



[VIEW BULLETIN BOARD](#)



[MANAGE PREFERENCES](#) | [UNSUBSCRIBE](#) | [FORWARD](#) | [VIEW IN BROWSER](#)

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