

# Leon County School Stakeholder Garden Application Package



## Leon County's Stakeholder Garden Program

This application package is for schools seeking support for gardens operated on non-County property for education purposes.

## Overview, Eligibility and Appropriate Sites

School Stakeholder gardens include gardens at schools or nearby facilities intended for use by students. Such gardens, whose purposes are for civic improvement (including education, growing fresh produce to address food security issues, or neighborhood revitalization) are eligible to apply for County support. The garden must be within Leon County. Gardens located outside of Tallahassee's city limits must be operated in compliance with Section 10-6.816 of the Code of Laws of Leon County, governing the establishment and operation of community gardens. Recipients of garden grants shall agree to post a sign to be supplied by Leon County.

Those applying for support of a garden to be hosted by an organization other than a school, please complete the application found here: [www.GrowingGreen.org](http://www.GrowingGreen.org)

## Steps in Garden Application Process

1. Submit the completed application to Tessa Schreiner.
2. A site visit is mandatory prior to application approval. An agent from Leon County Cooperative Extension will be in contact to schedule the site visit, which should be completed within 10 business days of the submission of a completed application.
3. The package will be reviewed by County staff for compliance with Leon County's Community Garden Policy and the applicant will be notified of the status of the application within 30 days of submitting a completed application.
4. Grantees will need to fill out a Leon County New Vendor form and a federal W-9 form from the IRS in order to receive a check.

If you have questions about the preparation of your application, please contact Tessa Schreiner at the above information.

## Once application package is complete, send to:

Tessa Schreiner, Leon County Sustainability & Recycling Manager

**E-mail:** [SchreinerT@leoncountyfl.gov](mailto:SchreinerT@leoncountyfl.gov)

**Phone:** 850.606.1827

**Fax:** 850.606.1801

**Mail:** Office of Resource Stewardship  
7550 Apalachee Parkway  
Tallahassee, FL 32311



# School Stakeholder Garden Application



## ITEM 1. BASIC APPLICATION INFORMATION

1. Application Date: \_\_\_\_\_

2. School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

3. School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Contact Information for teacher or school employee acting as Primary Garden Organizer

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject/Grade or Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Contact Information for teacher or school employee acting as Assistant Garden Organizer

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject/Grade or Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## ITEM 2. SUPPORT OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Attach a letter of support from the school administration to be submitted with the application.

## ITEM 3. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

1. What is the purpose of the proposed garden?

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2. Is this a new garden site or expansion of an existing garden project? Are you aware of other gardens at same site or nearby? If yes, have attempts at coordination been made?

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3. How many classes are or will be involved in this project? How many students will be engaged throughout the year?



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## ITEM 4. DESCRIPTION OF GARDEN

1. Describe reasons this site is a good location for a garden.

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2. Provide below or on additional sheets a sketch of the proposed garden. Indicate the dimensions proposed for the garden site and how it is located relative to roads, fences, buildings or other structures, water spigots, trees, and other prominent features. Include a north arrow to indicate direction. Also indicate where gardeners will park vehicles.

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## ITEM 5. GARDEN OPERATION PLAN



1. Who will be primarily responsible for providing necessary maintenance to garden?

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2. What about maintenance over weekends and holiday breaks?

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3. What will happen to the garden over summer vacations?

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4. What is your intended schedule of work? (i.e. weeding, watering, harvesting, etc.)

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5. Have you checked with maintenance staff at your school about the garden location to make sure there isn't anything under the proposed site? (i.e. utilities, sprinkler systems, etc.)

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6. Have you discussed with maintenance staff of school to see how the garden will fit into the existing trimming, mowing, and pesticide/herbicide usage on garden site?

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## ITEM 6. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Any unused land has the potential to be turned into a garden, but the following list suggests some things that make the process easier, which you might want to consider as you start your garden.

*You are not required to answer these questions as a part of your application.*

1. Does the land receive adequate sunlight and water supply for the plants you wish to grow?
2. Does the site have appropriate nearby storage for tools and other needed things?
3. Is the site accessible to those with all levels of ability?
4. Is the garden accessible for delivery of needed tools, soil, and other supplies?
5. Are you aware of appropriate planting times in this area?
6. Do you have the necessary facilities to have on-site composting?
7. Will you have a hand-washing station for students who use the garden?

## ITEM 7. LISTING OF OTHER SUPPORT

1. Describe the support (in-kind and financial) you are receiving or expect to receive from other sources.

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2. How will the garden be monetarily sustained over the next few years?

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## ITEM 8. STATEMENT OF NEED

The County may assist stakeholder gardens whose applications are approved by the County Administrator or his designee with the following resources:

### Material Support

- Soil amendments (coarse and fine mulch), available from Solid Waste

### Grant Funds

Grant funds are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis and therefore are contingent upon the availability of funds.

The following are allowable expenditures from stakeholder garden grant funds:

- Enhancement of water supply
- Fencing
- Purchase of lumber and materials for construction of garden beds (green, pressure-treated wood, concrete blocks, or other non-toxic materials)
- Purchase of topsoil or compost
- Purchase of seeds
- Purchase of garden tools, gloves, scales, or other non-mechanical equipment

### Technical Support

A consultation from experts at Cooperative Extension is available upon request, in which an agent will be available to review best practices and tailor the garden plan to meet site conditions. Please contact Cooperative Extension to arrange this consultation after the approval of your application.

Please describe your needs and explain why you are seeking County support. Be specific about what your requests are for each area above.

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*Thank you for your application.  
You will be contacted upon receipt of all materials.*

Note: Starting one calendar year after receiving initial support from Leon County, you may be eligible for additional support, depending on the availability of funds. Applications from gardens who have previously received grant funds will be accepted after August 1 of any given year.