School Garden 101

Facilitator Information:

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MEET: MARCH 8 (TU), 15 (TU), 21 (MO), 29 (TU), APRIL 5 (TU)
3:30-6:00PM

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This is an evening course to help you gain the skills needed to maintain an organic garden and ideas to jumpstart your school’s garden. This class is intended for school teachers and cooks who will tie garden learning to the classroom and cafeteria. Each class will focus on a particular garden subject (i.e., compost) and provide time for you to meet with your school team to plan your garden.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
• Build understanding of basic gardening principles
• Connect gardening principles to school activities and curriculum
• Support the creation of school gardens with ideas and planning time

COURSE GUIDELINES:
Attendance: We expect that you attend all classes, in respect to the instructors and your peers. Please contact the facilitators if you are going to be absent. Each participant is allowed to miss one class.

Technology: Please silence cell phones. Texting, messaging on laptops, etc. is disrespectful to the classroom environment so it is discouraged.

Timing: The facilitators promise to start and end the course on time.

Participation: This course demands thoughtful participation in class discussions and activities. Please come to class prepared. During the discussions, be sure to respect those that are speaking, do not dominate conversations, and do not chat on the side.

Accommodations: If you are a person with a disability and will need any accommodations to participate in this program, please call Marjorie Peronto at 1-800-287-1479 to discuss your needs. Please contact us at least ten days prior to this event to assure fullest possible attention to your needs.

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PARTICIPANTS: WHO SHOULD TAKE THIS COURSE

This class works best for groups of people from the same school community who want to start a new school garden. These groups should be made up of three to six people and a mixture of teachers, cooks, parents, librarians, etc…

HOMEWORK: APPLYING GARDEN LESSONS TO YOUR SCHOOL

The purpose of these exercises is for you commit to creating a plan for your new school garden with your school group and share information gained in this course at your school (classrooms or cafeteria). Each participant will be asked to complete two individual assignments and four school group assignments over the five-week course.

**INDIVIDUAL:** These assignments should be focused on teaching youth at your school about gardening and food. Please use provided classroom lesson materials or create your own activities to engage youth. After completing each assignment, please hand in documentation at the beginning of class to the facilitators. Documentation can include: a one page summary of the activity (printed or handwritten), photographs of the project, or copies of any materials you created (lesson plan, recipes, etc…).

**GROUP:** These assignments are intended to move your school garden project forward. Your group will be provided with some time in class to plan your garden and may have to meet outside of class to complete the activities. As a group, create a binder that includes all of the assignments you have completed; hand in one copy of the binder on the last day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class Topic</th>
<th>Group Assignment Due</th>
<th>Individual Assignment Due (choose two)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>COMPOST</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>NONE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>SOIL</td>
<td>- school compost plan (required)</td>
<td>- compost activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>SEEDS &amp; SEEDLINGS</td>
<td>- school garden tasks &amp; roles worksheet (required)</td>
<td>- soil activities - seed germination mason jar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>GARDEN PLANNING</td>
<td>- garden site survey (required)</td>
<td>- seed/seedling activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>BEYOND</td>
<td>- supplies list (required)</td>
<td>- planning activities</td>
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</tbody>
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Feedback & Successful Course Completion

Feedback, assistance, and support will be given by the instructors as needed by the student and as appropriate for each assignment. In order to earn certificates of participation and to complete the course, students must submit all assignments and participate in four out of five classes.