



Mentor Request Form ~ Forsyth Community Gardening

Forsyth Community Gardening (FCG) offers training in community organizing and sustainable horticulture for volunteers who serve as mentors to community garden groups. Most Mentors are already involved with a garden, but sometimes new Mentors can assist groups that request assistance. **Please note, the role of a Mentor is to offer guidance as your group works to organize your garden and use good horticultural practices, and connect the group to the educational opportunities and resources of the FCG Program.**

If you would like to request a Mentor to assist your group, please fill out a Mentor Request Form. **We cannot guarantee that a Mentor will be available, but we will try to find a good match.** The form can be filled out online (<https://tinyurl.com/FCGMentorRequest>), or you may fill out a paper copy and return it to the Community Gardening Coordinator by scanning and emailing it to gregormm@forsyth.cc, or delivering it to N.C. Cooperative Extension, Forsyth County Center, 1450 Fairchild Rd., Winston-Salem NC 27105.

1. Name of Garden: _____

2. Garden Address: _____

3. Primary Contact Information:

Name: _____ Role in Garden Group: _____

Email: _____

Phone: (home) _____ (work) _____ (cell) _____

Preferred contact method(s): Email Home phone Work phone Cell

4. Other garden leaders committed to working on garden organizing and good horticultural practices:

a) Name: _____ Role: _____ Contact info: _____

b) Name: _____ Role: _____ Contact info: _____

c) Name: _____ Role: _____ Contact info: _____

5. How much time is your group willing to spend on garden-related efforts (recruiting, planning, organizing, planting & maintenance workdays, attending educational workshops, etc.)?

Hours/Week/Person: _____

Best Days/Times: _____

Continued on 2nd page →

6. How many people:

- a) **Serve on your garden leadership / planning team?** _____ (# of people)
- b) **Participate in gardening activities?** _____ (# of people)

7. What is your garden’s mission? What do you hope to accomplish through community gardening?

8. Please describe your garden:

- a) **Type of garden:** Neighborhood Faith School/Children’s Service organization
 Other (indicate): _____

b) **Garden beds** (raised beds or in-ground, #, size, soil): _____

c) **Water source:** _____

d) **Crops & gardening methods:** _____

e) **Major activities:** _____

10. Who or what organization owns the land? _____

11. Do you have established workdays? If so, when are they and what tasks are completed at workdays?

12. What specific help would you like from a Mentor?

On the next page, please select the best practices your garden group would like to work on with a Mentor in the next year. We suggest that groups identify 1-2 goals to focus on in each area.

13. Which of the following best practices will you work with your Mentor to implement in the next year?

Garden Organizing:

- Engage more members by visiting groups and making personal invitations.
- Assign leadership roles or jobs to all members.
- Plan and hold regular meetings and workdays.
- Develop and implement a system to share garden maintenance tasks.
- Hold educational, social, cultural, and/or fundraising events -- specify:



Other Garden Organizing Goal: _____

Diversity and Inclusion:

- Increase the racial/ethnic diversity of garden leadership and create a welcoming environment for people from different cultures (e.g., nondiscrimination policy, bilingual programs, etc.).
- Make the garden accessible to people with disabilities (e.g., smooth paths, extra-tall beds, etc.)
- Host inter-generational gardening activities.
- Other Diversity & Inclusion Goal: _____

Sustainable Horticulture:

- Get soil tests, and use the results to decide what fertilizers and soil amendments to apply.
- Make a crop plan with optimum planting dates and crop rotation.
- Grow vegetable varieties that are resistant to diseases and insects.
- Plant cover crops for soil improvement.
- Use organic pest control (create habitat for beneficial insects, diversify crops, clean up crop residue, etc.)
- Use organic weed control (crop rotation, careful fertilization & watering, cover crops, mulching, etc.)
- Plant native plants to support beneficial insects.
- Start composting or improve composting practices.
- Season extension: Use low tunnels to grow vegetables in early spring and late fall.
- Other Horticultural Goal: _____

