

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Department of Parks and Recreation



Community Gardens

Q: How do I find and join a DPR Community Garden?

A: DC Parks and Recreation (DPR) has 35 community gardens hosting thousands of gardeners citywide. To join, find the closest garden to your residence at this link and email the garden manager to about plot availability.

Q: What should I do if I am waitlisted for a DPR Community Garden?

A: Most gardens do have waiting lists, each managed by the gardens' Volunteer Garden Manager. Find out your status on the waitlist by emailing Volunteer Garden Manager; contact information for each garden can be found at https://dpr.dc.gov/page/community-gardens

We encourage interested gardeners to participate in DPR Community Gardens' Shared Roots Program, volunteer at a DPR Partner Farm or a communal garden and register for our year-round Education Programs

Q: I would like to volunteer as an individual or a group. How can I volunteer at a DPR site or event?

A: We encourage interested volunteers to explore opportunities offered by our Partner Farms. DPR has seven (7) Partner Farms throughout the District that are managed by non-profit organizations in coordination with DPR Partnerships. Each Partner Farm focuses on garden education and/or local food production. Most of these sites have volunteer hours and opportunities. To learn more, visit this link to find contact information for each Partner.

DPR's Environmental Division offers public events year-round; for recent events, visit dpr.events

Q: What is a communal garden?

A: Most DPR Community Gardens uphold a traditional structure where gardeners are responsible for individual plots. At DPR's communal gardens, however, there are no individual plots and the entirety of the garden group shares full responsibility and rewards for all of the garden beds as a whole. Some of DPR's communal gardens include:

- Dix Street Garden, 53rd Street and Dix Street NE
- Arboretum Youth Garden, 2412 Rand Place NE
- Theodore Hagans Senior Garden, 3201 Fort Lincoln Drive NE
- Mother's Peace Garden, Mississippi Avenue and 13th Street SE





Q: How can I explore non-DPR gardens and farms located throughout the District?

A: There are dozens of outstanding farms, gardens and growing spaces that are not governed by DPR. Explore these sites and other local agriculture resources by joining the DC Urban Garden Network (DUG), a monthly newsletter that highlights new garden opportunities, workshops, programs, volunteer opportunities, job openings, grants, and garden tips at this link.

Q: Are there DPR Community Gardens that are frequently in high need of gardeners?

A: Yes, we have a few DPR Community Gardens that are frequently in high demand of committed community gardeners! Some of these gardens include, but are not limited to:

- Benning Garden, Fable Street and Southern Avenue SE
- Fort Greble Community Garden, MLK Avenue and Elmira Avenue SE
- Dix Street Garden, 53rd Street and Dix Street SE
- Marvin Gaye Community Garden, 15 61st Street NE

Some of our local partners also share a need for committed gardeners:

- 1. Deanwood Baptist Church Garden Currently Needs Gardeners (last updated May 2019)
- A Garden Lot is available for use by a community organization by the REDEEM Community Development Corporation, of the First Baptist Church of Deanwood.
- The lot size is 4,500 sq. ft. and located next to its Community Outreach Center at 4408 Sheriff Road. A use agreement between REDEEM and the interested organization will be required to identify terms and conditions. If interested, please contact Gerald W. Hines, Garden Coordinator at 301-910-8025.
- 2. Help K Street Farm move to Oxon Run Park! (last updated May 2019) DPR is working with DC Greens, Green Schemes and other community partners to possibly move the K Street Farm from Ward 1 to Oxon Run Park in Ward 8 this summer with DC Greens and The Green Scheme as lead partners.

If you would like to join current outreach and planning efforts, email Kate at kate@dcgreens.org

Q: Does DPR offer education programs for gardeners?

A: Yes! DPR offers education programming for gardeners at diverse growing levels. Explore our year-round education programs at dpr.dc.gov