

Welcome to USDA's People's Garden

The simple act of planting a garden can have big impacts—from building a more resilient local food system to empowering communities to address issues like nutrition access and climate change.

Join us at [usda.gov/peoples-garden!](https://usda.gov/peoples-garden)

You'll receive a sign to display, your garden will be listed on our website's interactive map, and we'll invite you to webinars and other sharing opportunities.

Check out our website to watch us grow! While there, you can view the map of our gardens, see photos on our Flickr account, and follow tips, tricks, and other stories. Stay engaged with us on social media and share your story using [#peoplesgarden](https://twitter.com/peoplesgarden).



“ The most valuable of all arts will be the art of deriving a comfortable subsistence from the smallest area of soil. ”

— Abraham Lincoln

The Name Explained

The People's Garden was named in honor of USDA's founder, President Abraham Lincoln, who described USDA as "The People's Department." The first People's Garden at USDA headquarters was started by Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack on February 12, 2009 — Lincoln's 200th birthday.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Register Here



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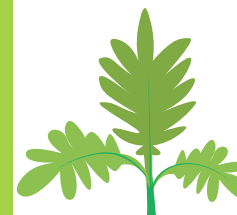
USDA

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WELCOME TO



THE PEOPLE'S
GARDEN



Join the People's Garden!

People's Gardens empower communities to grow healthy food in a sustainable way and teach about the benefits of local, resilient food systems. These gardens foster community collaboration, create jobs and green spaces, provide access to nutritious food, and benefit the environment.

People's Gardens are different sizes and types, and can include school gardens, community gardens, urban farms, and small-scale agriculture projects in rural and urban areas. They cannot be personal gardens located at private residences.



“ I encourage you to participate and be involved. Real and effective action starts small, and it starts with our communities. ”

— *Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack*



Join the People's Garden community at usda.gov/peoples-garden.



Grow healthy food using sustainable practices that benefit people and wildlife.



Teach about local, resilient food systems.

All gardens located on Federal property will donate food to local communities.



Types of People's Gardens

People's Gardens can take many different forms:



FOOD GARDEN

Grow healthy, fresh fruits and vegetables in your own community. Don't forget to donate any excess food to a local food pantry.



WILDLIFE HABITAT AND SUSTAINABLE GARDEN

Provide food, water, cover, and a place for wildlife to raise their young. Increase the number of pollinators in your area by including plants that provide essential habitat for bees, bats, butterflies, moths, beetles, hummingbirds, and other pollinators. Demonstrate the value of conserving soil, water, air, and other natural resources.



BEAUTIFICATION

Nurture a green, natural space for your community to gather, enjoy, and reflect. Use native species of perennial flowering plants that build a healthier ecosystem.



EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Align garden activities to lessons and subjects being taught in the classroom or use gardens to offer job training and apprenticeships in forestry, agriculture, landscaping, and culinary arts.

INVESTING IN AMERICA

Learn more about the People's Garden at usda.gov/peoples-garden and USDA assistance for urban farms and gardens at farmers.gov/urban and usda.gov/urban.