



# Fall/Winter 2016

## WSU Community First Garden Project Application

Deadline to apply is December 1, 2016

**Our mission** Community First Garden Project provides funding, technical support and education to new and established community gardens throughout Whatcom County, while fostering cooperative, community building relationships.

**To date** we have funding a total of 225 raised beds, 3 hoop houses, fencing, soil amendments, vegetable starts, tools, compost systems, soil tests, garden sheds, irrigation systems and more.

**Who can apply?** We accept applications that are community based (churches, clubs, neighborhood associations) that can demonstrate the need for a community garden in their area. WSU can help applicants assess those needs.

A full list of these elements is on our website under Guidelines for proposals.

<http://whatcom.wsu.edu/ch/assistance.html>

**Whatcom County CFG Garden recipients:** Ferndale Friendship Garden, Everson Community Garden, Cordata Community Garden, Lydia Place, Sterling Paz Community Garden. Sudden Valley Community Garden, Maple Falls, Meridian Middle School, Faith Lutheran Church, York Neighborhood Farm, East County Resource Center, Lummi Island Community Orchard, Deming Home Garden (Nooksack Tribal)

### **Other than financial help what kind of direct support can gardens receive through the CFG project?**

We strive to offer opportunities, networking, local connections, resources, and direct mentoring in the gardens. Gardens that partner can receive technical assistance in the designing, planning, budgeting, soil consultation, and layout.

### **Education & Mentoring**

WSUE can provide Master Gardener volunteers as advisors to community gardens. WSU Whatcom County Extension also offers free educational seminars at individual garden sites, through the extension's Master Gardener program, to help resolve issues at specific gardens. Topics include successive planting/harvesting, extending the growing season, rain water catchment, seed saving, composting and more.

*WSU Whatcom Extension Community First Garden Project  
Provides funding, technical support and education to new and established community gardens throughout Whatcom County, to foster a cooperative, sustainable, and resilient community.*



[www.whatcom.wsu.edu](http://www.whatcom.wsu.edu)

1000 N. Forest St., Ste 201 Bellingham, WA 98225

# Applying for Assistance

## Guidelines for Group/Neighborhood Garden Application

Thank you for your interest in partnering with Community First Gardens to create a community garden in your neighborhood. The CFG program helps in the creation and expansion of community gardens in Bellingham. We are excited about working with local groups like yours.

The garden grants will be used for such things as fences, raised beds, soil, etc., which must be matched by the group/neighborhood (this may be in dollars, volunteer time, or in-kind donations). No part of this grant may be used for wages or salary. Any approved funding will be for garden purchases. WSUE CFG does not award funds directly. Instead the purchases are paid for through a program account.

### TIMELINE FOR APPLYING Fall/Winter 2016

If your neighborhood/group is interested in working with Community First Garden Project to develop a neighborhood garden, you must submit an application. Applications are due by December 1, 2016

### GUIDELINES FOR APPLYING

Please submit your application electronically to [beth.chisholm@wsu.edu](mailto:beth.chisholm@wsu.edu) or by mail to: 1000 N. Forest St. Ste 201, Bellingham, WA 98225  
[www.whatcom.wsu.edu](http://www.whatcom.wsu.edu)

The proposal should:

- Describe the neighborhood's commitment to creating and sustaining a community garden. Garden grants award items for purchase. Our awards are based on detailed needs of items to purchase and a commitment to partner with WSU to create a garden for teaching and sharing.
- We strongly encourage you to consider stewardship and sustainable practices in your proposal. For example: Can you use funding to install drip irrigation or solar panels on a garden shed or maybe a compost system.
- Address how you will serve diverse populations and/or reach underserved community members.

Please answer questions 1-6. If you need assistance or have questions please contact Beth Chisholm [beth.chisholm@wsu.edu](mailto:beth.chisholm@wsu.edu)

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# APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Garden Group/ Contact:  
Location of garden or land (address)  
Current Land ownership:  
Water Access/ source:  
Previous or current land use:

Proposal must address each of the following:

- 1. Show that there is sufficient demand** for a community garden in your neighborhood by providing a list of the names of ten families or individuals who are committed to using a neighborhood garden (experience indicates that a “critical mass” of ten families is necessary to maintain a community garden).
- 2. Show that there is leadership capacity** in your neighborhood for developing a community garden. Provide a list of at least five people who are committed to taking a leadership role in developing a garden. These people will form the neighborhood committee that will work with the Community First Gardens Coordinator to design the garden, develop an operational plan, find resources for garden development and write a budget. Contact information for at least two of these people must also be provided.
- 3. Show that you have given some thought to how your garden will be structured by providing an organizational plan. This should include concepts such as:** Steering committee responsibilities, landowner agreements, other donors and goals.
- 5. Describe your garden site and include a site map.** You can request a map of publicly owned lands in your neighborhood from the city, or use Google Maps; also look to churches and privately owned vacant or under-utilized lots.
- 6. List a few other possible sources for funding/sponsorship,** and some ideas for group fundraising. *For example*, one community gardening group in another region raised money by selling square inches of garden for \$5.00. The names of those supporters were listed on a plaque at the garden site, along with an expression of thanks.

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