



**Will County
Executive
Lawrence M.
Walsh**

**Will County
and Use
Department
Resource
Recovery and
Energy
Division**

2016 Program and Grant Application

The We WILL Grow School and Community Garden Program was designed to teach the ease of growing fresh, healthy food to the residents of Will County.

The WE WILL Grow School and Community Garden Grant program funds the installation of raised bed gardens (will consider other locations with required soil test) for qualifying adult and student groups to learn about the benefits of growing food, and to inspire adding more fresh, healthy foods to daily diets.

For Schools, the We WILL Grow School and Community Garden Program assist in applying the process to specific school curriculum.

In conjunction with the Will County “Earth Flag Program” We WILL Grow will offer education throughout the growing season on a variety of topics such as: water conservation, native plants, pollinators, soil conservation, and soil erosion,



Young Sprouts Garden At William E. Young School

January 20, 2016

Zion Full Tabernacle Church Raise Him Up Summer Youth Garden Program at Evergreen Terrace Apartments, Joliet.



We WILL Grow and Earth Flag Program address new Science Standards

K-ESS2-2 Plants and Animals Impact on the Environment
K-ESS3-3 Human Impact on the Land
1-LS1-1 Human Application of Plant/Animal Adaptation
1-ESS1-1 Predictable patterns of the Sun, Moon, Stars
2-LS2-1 Plants Depend on Water and Light
2-ESS2-1 Wind and Water

Shapes the Land-Erosion
3-LS1-1 Plant and Animal Life Cycles
3-LS4-4 Adaptation to Environmental Influences
4-ESS1-1 Plant and Animal Adaptation structures
4-ESS2-1 Erosion by Natural Processes
4-ESS3-1 Energy from Natural Resources

5-PS3-1 Energy from the Sun - Food
5-LS1-1 Plants get their needs from Air and Water

Science Standards continued

-ESS3-1 Human Impact on Earth, Conservation & Resources
 MS-LS1-4 Plant and Animal Adaptations
 MS-LS2-3 Food Webs & Flow of Energy in an Ecosystem
 MS-ESS2-4 Water Cycle
 MS-ESS3-3 Human Impact on the Environment
 MS-ESS3-4 Human Consumption of Natural Resources
 HS-PS3-3 Explore Alternative & Renewable Energy
 HS-LS2-5 Photosynthesis & Respiration C2
 HS-LS2-7 Human Impacts on Ecosystems/Invasive Species
 HS-ESS2-5 Water Cycle, Watersheds
 HS-ESS3-2 Wise Energy Use & Recycling, Renewable Resources
 HS-ESS3-3 Human Impacts, Sustainability, Natural Resources

-ESS3-1 Human Impact on Earth, Conservation & Resources
 MS-LS1-4 Plant and Animal Adaptations
 MS-LS2-3 Food Webs & Flow of Energy in an Ecosystem
 MS-ESS2-4 Water Cycle
 MS-ESS3-3 Human Impact on the Environment
 MS-ESS3-4 Human Consumption of Natural Resources
 HS-PS3-3 Explore Alternative & Renewable Energy
 HS-LS2-5 Photosynthesis & Respiration C2
 HS-LS2-7 Human Impacts on Ecosystems/Invasive Species
 HS-ESS2-5 Water Cycle, Watersheds
 HS-ESS3-2 Wise Energy Use & Recycling, Renewable Resources
 HS-ESS3-3 Human Impacts, Sustainability, Natural Resources



If you are not already a member, join the Will County Earth Flag program

<http://www.willcountygreen.com/assets/1/AssetManager/Illinois%20Earth%20Flag%20School%20App.pdf>



Students from Chelsea School learning how to Vermi-Compost



Veterans Garden Partnership with Joliet Park District

2016 will be the second year of the Veterans' Garden at the Joliet Park District's Organic Community Garden located on McDonough Street, Joliet.

Will County and the Joliet Park district are partnering to provide up to 40 10 x 10 plots to Will County Vets. Will County will cover the cost of plants and garden tools needed to work the site.

There are five returning Vets and the grant will open for all Will County Vets on January 26, 2016.

If you would like any information about the program, please call:

Kathy Pecora, 815-774-7906

2016 is Year 2 of Veterans' Garden at Joliet Park District's Organic Community Garden!



Thank you to *Tri-County Stockdale* [Phone: 815-207-8465](tel:815-207-8465) 25520 W Black Rd Joliet, IL 60404 for being our 2015 Veteran's Garden Partner.

**Gardens are a wonderful group activity!
And have proven therapeutic benefits.**

2015 Garden Grant Recipient Cornerstone Services used their award to extend their already growing horticulture program. Large raised bed gardens were built at their Ludeman Center in Park Forest. Clients in the program learn to garden.



Evergreen Terrace Apartment's used their 2015 grant award to expand their existing **Residents** garden and to build a raised bed **Children's** garden. The gardens area provided hours of outdoor activity and created a great sense of community for everyone involved. Special thanks to ECO-Systems (non-profit bringing STEM education to bi-lingual and other children) for all their hard work designing and building the raised beds and providing lessons to the kids!



Harvest Luncheon At Evergreen Terrace Apartments



County Executive Lawrence M. Walsh, State Senator Pat McGuire, Bishop Craig Purchase and Pastor Bruce Malich join the children of their summer programs to celebrate the successful summer garden and get ready for school with a Harvest Luncheon. Thank you to Heroes West Sports Grill Phone: [815-725-1234](tel:815-725-1234) 1530 Commerce Lane, Joliet. www.heroeswest.net for providing the Harvest Luncheon.

County Executive Walsh, a professional farmer shares his knowledge of fruits and vegetables with the children.

Special Thanks goes to Garden Partner Will-South Cook Soil and Water Conservation District for providing nutrient testing at no cost to the program!

The Children share their lessons learned with the volunteer staff of Ecosystems a local non-profit providing additional education in STEM to Will County Children. Contact: Zach Mora @ zmora@purduecal.edu

Will County Boy Scout Uses Grant to Build Garden at Area Senior Care Facility



Garden Grant Recipient Chad Piktorna was awarded funds to build a low water raised garden bed to be used to grow flowering herbs and fresh food for the residents of Harbor Chase Assisted Living and Memory Care in Naperville. Beds will be ready for planting in Spring 2016. Flowering herbs make lovely floral arrangements and will not cause any harm if they are consumed.

Will County Executive Lawrence M. Walsh

Primary Business Address
58 East Clinton Street, Suite 100
Joliet, IL 60432

Phone: 815-774-7906
Fax: 815-722-3410
E-mail: kpecora@willcountylanduse.com

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK
[https://www.facebook.com/
wewillgrowgardenprogram/](https://www.facebook.com/wewillgrowgardenprogram/)



2016 Grant Application: Please complete all the required portions of the grant as noted. Final applications are due to Kathy Pecora @ kpecora@willcountylanduse.com by February 22, 2016, 12:00 pm. Grant interviews will be scheduled the first week of March.

Name of School or Group.

Address of Garden

Contact person and number

Site drawing of location of proposed garden (this does not need to be to scale)

Drawing to include: Directional positions

Proximity of water source

Size of proposed planters

Planters-size and construction plan

Size of proposed garden, raised beds *raised beds must be lined

Materials required

Growing medium

Plants and growing schedule.

Estimated cost to install –can provide material estimates

Garden Team

Name of Garden Team and each duty and function of each team member.

We WILL Grow School and Community Garden Program STRONGLY recommends that proposed gardens are raised beds.

**If a garden grant is awarded and no garden is constructed, grant recipient Must return awarded funds to Will County.*

Construction Team

Identify team members and role in material acquisition and construction process

Date of garden construction

Team members involved

**Materials required for garden projects receiving grant will be purchased by Will County. Member of We WILL Grow will need to have all estimates and will work with team to organize material delivery for construction date provided.*

Vegetables and Fruits grown

Crop plan for each garden identifying if seeds or transplants will be used.

Member of We WILL Grow will purchase soil, seeds, plants. Provide estimates.

Watering, weeding, and harvest teams and schedules.

List Garden Team members that will be responsible for these roles.

*If constructing a garden for donation, please include all partner organizations.

*If Garden Teams have multiple partner organizations, please identify all groups on the team.

*Helpful hints:

For assistance on garden organization and planning visit :

American Community Garden Association @ communitygarden.org

Openlands @ Openlands.org

We cannot wait to see your applications!