



SCHOOL GROUNDS FARM TO PRESCHOOL APPLICATION

The mission of the School Grounds Farm to Preschool program is to provide outdoor garden classrooms, teacher training, and on-going support for partner Preschools, enhanced by food access opportunities and family engagement. The program is designed to ensure student interaction with the natural world, an understanding of where food comes from, and the taste and health benefits of freshly picked veggies. Collaborating teachers gain the curriculum, resources, knowledge and enthusiasm to use this outdoor classroom to foster a farm to school culture that values and celebrates garden education as an integral part of developing the whole child.

Eligibility Requirements

Schools applying to the School Grounds Farm to Preschool program must currently have at least one preschool class, the support of one school administrator, and the involvement of a minimum of two preschool teachers. All applicants must be either a teacher or school administrator who will be involved in the project. Parents or guardians wishing to apply for the program at their child's school are not eligible to apply, and should share the program information with their school's teachers or administrators to encourage their participation.

Schools that are eligible for funding must be located in one of the following municipalities: Bloomfield, Caldwell, Cedar Grove, Clifton, Essex Fells, Fairfield, Glen Ridge, Little Falls, Montclair, North Caldwell, Nutley, Roseland, Verona, West Caldwell, and West Orange.

With Partners for Health Foundation funding, City Green is able to fund Farm to Preschool programs for selected eligible applicants. This may include garden beds and classroom infrastructure, curriculum training materials, in-school workshops, City Green field trips, City Green Veggie Mobile visits, and Garden State Good Food Network outreach materials.

Instructions

1. Read City Green's "School Ground's Farm to Preschool Program" and program eligibility requirements to determine if your school is a good fit for the program
2. Complete **all** parts of this Application Form and submit the form to City Green's Farm to Pre K Manager, Emma Latham, elatham@city-green.org Applications are accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year
3. City Green will review your application and contact your school to schedule and in-person consultation meeting to learn more about your vision for the project and see the potential garden site
4. City Green will design a Farm to Preschool program proposal for approval by your school administrator
5. Upon receipt of the signed and approved proposal, all proposed services and activities will be scheduled through City Green's Production and Youth Programming calendars for the year. If you have any questions or need further information, email elatham@city-green.org.

**If you have any questions or need further information,
email elatham@city-green.org.**



SCHOOL GROUNDS FARM TO PRESCHOOL APPLICATION

Contact Information

Name of School: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Contact Person (Name and Title): _____

Contact Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please type complete responses to each of the following questions on a separate Word document and attach to the end of this application.

This form is not intended to be cumbersome; rather, it is your opportunity to provide insight into the garden projects you wish to develop and your dedication to the sustainability of the programs.

School Information

1. What are the grades and ages of the students that will be involved with the Farm to Preschool program?
2. What is your school designation (Head Start, charter, public, etc.)?
3. What percentage of your students (if any) are eligible for free or reduced meals?
4. Do you currently have a school garden? If yes, please describe it's location and use.
5. Have you ever received garden program funding before? If yes, who funded the project?
6. Do you have a space you believe is available to build a garden? Does it have at least 6 hours of sunlight and access to water?

Garden Program Information

7. What is your vision for the school garden program (for both teachers and students)?
8. What infrastructure already exists to help sustain your garden program (PTO, garden club, etc.)?
9. How do you plan on incorporating a garden program into your school's schedule?
10. What do you think will be most challenging in having a successful garden program?
11. How do you plan on communicating the success of your program to parents and your school community?
12. Do you have any questions or concerns for us?



Please check off the Farm to Preschool program opportunities you would like to incorporate into your school's program below. Attach this page to your word document completed with school and garden program information

ALL City Green Farm to Preschool participants receive on-going technical assistance support from trained City Green Staff regardless of the package options selected below. This support includes garden consultation, garden repairs, and access to City Green's School Grounds network.

Farm to Preschool Beginner Garden Program package

- Custom built starter garden - Design and installation of a custom vegetable garden for the school. Gardens consist of multiple raised beds appropriate for the designated space.
 - Spring seed kits and vegetable plants to begin the growing season
 - Spring and end of summer garden clean ups
- Teacher Training - Implementation of an annual teacher training for 6 teachers at the school. The training includes: Gardening 101, review of City Green's Garden Curriculum, and a logistics workshop for the school to strategize the maintenance and use of the garden
- Garden Curriculum - Every trained teacher will be provided with a selection of City Green's Garden Curriculum. These printed curriculum books will include City Green's Preschool Garden Activities including a variety of garden based lesson plans.

Eat Better Tonight Jr. Workshops

- Implementation of spring and fall in-school taste test workshops. Students will create their own healthy snack using produce grown in their school garden and City Green's farm.

City Green Field Trips

- City Green Field Trips - the school attends one spring and one fall field trip with their student body. City Green hosts 2-hour field trips, 40 students at a time, throughout the months of May and October. Lessons include a farm tour, interaction with the farm animals, and hands-on educational lessons focused on farm fresh foods and the food system
- Farm to Table Family Fun Nights - families enrolled at the participating school will be invited to participate in these fun weeknight workshops allow families to harvest produce on the farm and cook a healthy meal together in City Green's farmhouse kitchen. Space is limited and families are accommodated on a first come first served basis

Veggie Mobile Visit

- The City Green Veggie Mobile visits the school to provide students and their families with the experience of shopping at a mobile farmer's market. Produce varieties will be dependent on seasonality.

City Green Event and Programming Information

- Printed materials will be provided for distribution to parents and caregivers describing City Green's community events and programming opportunities. This includes seasonal event calendars, Veggie Mobile schedules, invitation to City Green's Earth Day Celebration, Strawberry Festival, Twilight Farm Fests, and Harvest Festival.

Please return this completed form to Emma Latham, elatham@city-green.org.