
2010 Community Gardens

St. Luke's Church on Warren Street has dedicated a portion of its parking area across the street from the Church for use as a community garden. Members of the church and people from the neighborhood are tending the garden and a portion of the produce will be donated to local soup kitchens and the Fall River Food Pantry. For more information, contact Rev. James Hornsby at 508-672-6607 or jjhornsby@aol.com.

The Kuss and Talbot Middle Schools have recently constructed raised beds on school grounds with help from the L.E.A.D.S. students from the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth. These plots will permit students to get experience with raising vegetables that they choose. For more information, contact Jarrad Plante at jdp033@aol.com.

The Watson Elementary School on Eastern Avenue has several raised beds where students are raising a variety of vegetables. Teachers Jasmine Olean and Carrie Guy are working with the students and Derek Christianson of Brix Bounty farm in Dartmouth is consulting with the classes. For more, contact Principal Nancy Martin Bernier at 508-675-8240.

Nicole Fortier
Fall River Community Garden Coordinator
508-679-6841
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The Fall River Healthy City Initiative
was established in 2003 in partnership with the City of Fall River and Partners for a Healthier Community.



Healthy Lives is part of Healthy City Fall River, an initiative of the Mayor's Office in partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's Community Health Network Area organization, Partners for a Healthier Community, Inc., supported by DPH linkage funds and involving all of the people who live or work in the City of Fall River.

Complete information about the initiative is available at www.healthycityfallriver.org.

Healthy City Fall River
One Government Center, Room 422
Fall River, MA 02722
508-324-2411

Partners for a Healthier Community is the local Community Health Network Area (CHNA) organized by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to establish a working partnership between DPH and area residents to improve the health status of all those who live or work in the CHNA.

Partners for a Healthier Community
P.O. Box 1228
Fall River, MA 02722



Fall River's Community Gardens



Fall River Community Gardens

Compared with the rest of Massachusetts, a greater percentage of people in Fall River are overweight*, and consume fewer than five servings of fruits and vegetables daily*. To help remedy this situation, a series of meetings was held in the fall of 2008 to explore the possibility of creating one or more community gardens to promote healthy exercise and to produce low-cost vegetables that could contribute to the health of City residents.

Today, a growing number of community gardens throughout Fall River provide local residents the opportunity to raise vegetables for their own use or for donation to the soup kitchens that operate in the City. Residents contribute their labor; the cost of tools, seeds, fertilizer, water and other essentials is provided through donations.

Each garden is sponsored by a local organization including Bristol Community College, the Fall River Housing Authority, the Fall River Schools, and local religious organizations.

The YouthBuild and other youth programs provide the "heavy lifting" labor of roto-tilling the land and building raised beds. YouthBuild also provides construction of tool storage sheds that can be moved to garden locations.



Educational programs for community groups on soil testing and seed selection are held from time to time to help residents prepare for and design each of their gardens. Neighborhood groups also help to look at some of the issues of governance for each of the gardens.

A Community Garden Coordinator is also available to guide groups through the development of new gardens and the coordination of existing gardens with other community organizations.

For more information, contact the Coordinator or the contact person for each of the gardens on the list enclosed in this brochure. For information about the Healthy City initiative, go to www.HealthyCityFallRiver.org or call 508-324-2411.

(*www.gfrpartners.com/LeadingHealthIndicators.htm)

2010 Community Gardens

Bristol Community College has partnered with community members and organizations to provide an organically-maintained community garden at the Fall River Campus. Community members and organizations are invited to be involved in the project. Information about how to become involved is available through the Organic Agriculture Technician Program at 508-678-8211.

The Church of the Holy Spirit is using a portion of their property at the corner of Middle and Almond Streets near Kennedy Park for a community garden that is accessible to Fall River residents at no cost on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact the Church office at 508-672-5571 or at office.hsfr@verizon.net.

The Fall River Housing Authority has developed a community gardens for use by Doolan Apartment and Oak Village Apartment residents. Contact Housing Authority Family and Youth Services Coordinator Joey DaSilva at 508-675-3500 or at Joey@fallriverha.org.

Promise Leaders of Tomorrow (PLOT) and Team FRESH have established a small garden plot at the rear of the Veterans' Memorial Auditorium building (Armory) at 72 Bank Street. Youth are tending the garden as a community project and donating the produce to local soup kitchens and the Fall River Food Pantry. For more information, contact Annemarie Sharkey at 508-679-0922 or asharkey831@yahoo.com.

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