



Gardens Network 2017 End of Year Report

The Gardens Network is a partnership of Community GroundWorks, Dane County UW Extension, and the City of Madison. We connect people in Dane County with access to the space, education and resources to create and sustain gardens that foster food, engagement and opportunity.

Dane County Community Gardens

68 Established Gardens

26 City of Madison land
13 church property
10 county municipality
19 other locations

3,390+ community garden plots
87 plots >1/4 acre

92 total acres

8 Emerging Gardens

Oregon | Waunakee | Blooming Grove | Fitchburg
Madison Eastside | Westside | Southside | Northside
30+ total acres

Accomplishments

- Annual garden summit held on Feb 18th, **80+** attendees.
- Awarded a total of **\$2,000** in garden enhancement grants to **4** gardens.
- Facilitated leadership training and development at **17** community gardens.
- Held lease and liability insurance for **13** gardens on City of Madison land.
- Administered Madison Water Utility billing for **11** gardens.
- Consulted **8** new garden projects on public and private land.
- Advocated for equitable land use contracts between gardeners and private land owners.
- Identified administrative needs and developed best practices and tools for project management.
- Advocated for access to resources that meet basic human needs and support sustainable growing practices.
- Collaborated with private land owners, county government agencies, land trusts, community organizations, City of Madison Parks and Engineering Departments, Madison Water Utility, Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District, and the Department of Transportation.
- Advocated for policy changes (i.e. temporary land use permit, affordable water access, and gardens as an official park use).

What is a Community Garden?

- A single piece of land gardened collectively by a group of people.
 - American Community Gardening Association
- In Dane County, plots range from 10'x10' to ½ acre in size.

Madison Spotlight

49 gardens | 2,500+ plots

- **14** in Madison parks
- **6** on MMSD property
- **6** on other city land
- **7** on church property
- **16** other locations