



## SPRING TIME GARDENS

The Portland Community Gardens program started in 1974. There are 50 gardens in the program portfolio.



March is the time of year to start thinking about a summer garden filled with vegetables! But not having a yard doesn't mean you have to miss all of the gardening fun. In addition to being enjoyable and rewarding, growing your own produce means having your own supply of organic and locally grown produce. The following is a list of resources that can help you enjoy community gardening in all sorts of ways; **just click the titles to visit each website.**

### **Portland Parks and Recreation Community Gardens Program**

Fifty community gardens throughout the city allow residents to rent a plot of land with watering, fencing, and support readily available. Plots are assigned to new gardeners in March through July on a first-come, first-served basis. To rent a plot, just fill out the payment form, which can be found through the above link. To renew your plot, just list your existing plot number on the form.

### **Portland Fruit Tree Project**

Volunteers help harvest fruit from yards around the city. Half the harvest is taken home by the volunteers, and the other half is donated to people in need. Click the heading to see upcoming events and volunteer.

### **Growing Gardens**

Volunteers help install a garden in the home of a low-income family in need. The program also trains the recipient of the garden and gives them three years of gardening support.

### **Community Garden FUN FACTS**

- Over 2,100 plots rented in 2013
- 4,000 people tending them
- 1,000 families are currently on the waiting list
- Scholarship assistance is available

#### **Cost:**

- ADA accessible raised bed: \$20
- 50-sq-ft plot: \$12
- 100-sq-ft plot: \$25
- 200-sq-ft plot for \$50
- 400-sq-ft plot for \$100

Rental fees are per-season, and pay for the land and the water. Gardeners must provide their own tools, plants, seeds, etc.

### **Yard Sharing**

Yard sharing is a program that helps those without gardens of their own to use the extra garden space of established gardeners. The owner of the garden offers some of that space to another person who has time to tend to it. The title above links to the program's website, and shows a map of nearby gardens.

### **Food Not Lawns**

Food Not Lawns chapters are communities of gardeners who work together to grow and share food, seeds, and knowledge. They can help you whether you are a novice gardener or an experienced veteran of the soil.

### **Urban Farm Collective**

Neighbors work together to transform vacant lots into neighborhood food gardens for the purposes of education, community building, and improving food security.