



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

Gardening and Horticulture Project

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What is it All About?

Is your thumb green? Find out how your garden grows in the 4-H Gardening and Horticulture project. You will learn how to plant a garden, dig it, grow it, show it, and eat it. 4-H Gardening and Horticulture will teach you facts about soils and plants, pest management, and even how you can experiment with plants in a laboratory or field.

Grow in Your Project

Starting Out

- Identify different types of gardens
- Grow and maintain a garden
- Plant seeds
- Learn pest management techniques
- Learn how to harvest crops
- Learn to identify and use common garden tools

Resources

- Gardening: See Them Sprout, Level 1 (4H1037)*
- Gardening: Let's Get Growing, Level 2 (4H1038)*

Learning More

- Learn about garden fertilizer and nutrients plants need to grow
- Plant bulbs in the fall for spring blooms
- Make a container garden
- Learn about compost and make a simple compost bin
- Discover different ways to prepare and use garden produce

Resources

- Gardening: Take Your Pick, Level 3 (4H1039)*

Going Further

- Research types of plants that grow well in your area.
- Start an herb garden
- Learn about food preservation methods
- Take a soil sample and have it tested for nutrients
- Experiment with organic production
- Design a gardening experiment

Resources

- Gardening: Growing Profits, Level 4 (4H1040)*

Resources for All Three Levels

- Gardening Helper's Guide (4H1041)*

Take Your Project Further!

- Learn about locally grown foods.
- Participate in the a produce judging contest at your County Fair or the State Fair.
- Tour a local nursery or farm to explore careers that interest you.
- Expand your garden and sell produce at a farmers market or to a local restaurant.
- Start a greenhouse or container garden in your home.
- Explore the health benefits of different vegetables.



*Resources available at your local Extension office or shop4-H.org.

Applying Project Skills to Life

Enhance Your Communication Skills

- Make a video on how to properly water your garden.
- Teach your club how to identify common weeds.
- Give a presentation on common garden tools and how they are used.

Get Involved in Citizenship and Service

- Help children plant a garden at a local daycare or school.
- Collect seeds and garden supplies and donate them to a local organization.
- Plant flowers at local parks, your Extension Office, or your fairgrounds.

Learn about Leadership

- Partner with Cen\$ible Nutrition to teach a class using garden produce.
- Organize and host a community garden tour.
- Host a club Produce Judging Contest.



Showing What You've Learned

- Exhibit vegetables, herbs or flowers.
- Make a poster about parts of a plant.
- Build a compost bin or rain barrel.
- Prepare an exhibit on how to use fresh herbs in cooking.
- Create a notebook of common plants for a butterfly garden.
- Create design a landscape for home.
- Make planters for accessible gardening.
- Prepare a poster showing proper harvest times for vegetables.
- Display different types of mulch for the garden.
- Make a cost comparison of starting your own seeds vs. buying transplants. Show the results on a poster.
- Create your own garden calendar.
- Start a plant from a cutting.
- Create a display on pollination.



Adapted with permission from Wyoming State 4-H, Project Information Sheet, Gardening and Horticulture. Retrieved from: <https://www.uwyo.edu/4-h/projects/healthy-living/gardening-horticulture.html>.

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