## How to Join a Community Garden

## Participating in a community garden takes extra effort

A community garden is a shared space. As a community gardener, in addition to taking care of your own growing space, you also participate in garden decisions and attend community workdays and gatherings. Shared spaces like pathways, perennial herb and flower beds, sheds, and gathering spaces are cared for by all members of a community garden. The day to day operations of the garden, including new gardener sign-ups and organization of community work days and potlucks, are handled by volunteer garden leaders or steering committees (which you could join). It really takes a community to grow a garden!

## To join a community garden:

- 1. Find a community garden close to you. <u>MAP OF COMMUNITY GARDENS</u>
- 2. Fill out the Community Garden Interest form below. The information you share will help us connect you to a garden in your neighborhood.
- 3. If you have questions, contact Quina Weber-Shirk, Community & School Garden Agent with NC Cooperative Extension Guilford County Center, jjwebers@ncsu.edu, or (336)525-6112.
- You will be contacted when any of the gardens you select have a plot available, or to be added to the waiting list.
- 5. If a plot is available (waiting lists are common), the garden leader will meet you at the garden to select a plot. The garden leader will also share information about social events, maintenance guidelines, fees and forms that need to be completed. Many community gardens require a garden application and waiver for you to join a community garden.
- 6. If space is not available at your first choice garden, check out our garden list and map, and choose another community garden that is convenient for you. You may also contact the Community & School Garden Program at NC Cooperative Extension Guilford County, and we will help you find an alternative.

COMMUNITY GARDEN INTEREST FORM

Happy Gardening!