



4-H Gardening Project



Step It Up!

Pass it on! Now that you know how, share it with others. Here are ideas to get you started

Citizenship/ Leadership

- Plant a flower, tree, shrub or garden for a nursing home, school or other public area or adopt a flower bed at one of these locations.
- Help your local extension office host a gardening workshop, clinic, tour or plant sale.

Communications

- Give a presentation or demonstration or design a poster on garden tools or techniques.
- Make a how-to video to help others in your area.
- Teach members in your club how to identify common garden weeds

Are you Into It?

How does your garden grow? You will learn to plant, dig, grow, show, and eat it!

- Learn to plan, care for, and manage vegetable and/or flower gardens, lawns, or commercial horticultural crops.
- Learn about pest management.
- Learn basic facts about plants and soils.
- Apply knowledge by experimenting with plants in a laboratory or in the field.
- Learn about landscaping and water gardens

Here's what you can do all year!

Starting Out Basic

- Identify different types of gardens
- Grow and maintain a garden
- Plant seeds
- Learn pest management techniques
- Learn how to harvest crops
- Examine parts of a plant and discover their function

Learning More Intermediate

- Build a compost bin and learn about garden fertilizer and nutrients.
- Investigate the difference between annual and perennial plants.
- Learn about different ways plants reproduce by dividing plants and transplanting favorite specimens.
- Explore pollination while planting a butterfly garden.
- Create a gardening calendar by identifying the best seasons for growing different plants.
- Sell produce at a farmers market.

Expanding Horizons Advanced

- Investigate how people use different plants while growing an herb garden.
- Learn about food preservation methods.
- Take a soil sample from different locations in your yard and garden and test for pH and nutrients.
- Learn more Integrated Pest Management for yards and gardens.
- Design a plant science experiment and connect with your local UF/IFAS Research and Education Center for ideas

Healthy Living

- Look at the parts of plants we eat and make a plan to share their nutritional value with others.
- Go outside and use gardening to relax and enjoy the outdoors.
- Explore how recipes can be enhanced using herbs.

Science

- Explore plant parts and their functions.
- Design a plant science experiment and share the results at your local science fair.
- Visit your local UF/IFAS Research Center to learn more about plant science.



Expand Your Experiences in Gardening project!

- Expand your garden and sell produce at farmers markets or to local restaurants.
- Learn about locally grown foods and visit with farmers in your area.
- Collect seeds and garden supplies from your community, then donate them to a local organization.
- Job-shadow at a local greenhouse, nursery or farm to explore careers that interest you.
- Contact your county IFAS Extension Office for workshops, activities, and events related to plant science and gardening.
- Prepare an exhibit showing what you have learned for submission to the County Fair for judging; it may be selected to advance to a Regional or State Fair.
- Meet other groups interested in horticulture, such as local garden clubs, native plant societies, master gardeners and friend of park groups.
- Attend a local garden show.
- Check out camps at the Florida 4-H Center: florida4h.org/camps/
- Register for 4-H University to attend workshops, participate in community service events, hear keynotes, compete in contests, have fun, and meet other youth from across Florida who may share common interest: florida4h.org/programsandevents/_4hu/
- Schedule a visit with the University of Florida to explore majors like Botany, Environmental Science, Horticultural Science, Plant Science, and Soil and Water Science: cals.ufl.edu/index.php

Project Sharing Ideas

- Exhibit vegetables, herbs, or flowers at the country, district or state fair.
- Make a poster/display about parts of a plant or another gardening topic you are learning about.
- Build a compost bin or rain barrel.
- Prepare an exhibit or demonstration on how to use fresh herbs in cooking.
- Create a notebook of common plants for a butterfly garden or specialty garden.
- Develop a local garden calendar, newsletter, or blog

Resources

4-H Project Resources

Project materials to assist youth in learning may be available through your county 4-H office or you can order directly.

Available at National 4-H:
www.4-hmall.org

Gardening:

Level 1: See them Sprout

Level 2: Take Your Pick

Level 3: Growing Profits

Leaders Guide

Available through EDIS:

Beginning Gardening Unit 1:

edis.ifas.ufl.edu

- Plant Connections

- Vegetable Gardening Project

Available through Junior Master Gardener

imgkids.us/curriculum/

Connections and Events

Attending events and taking advantage of opportunities that will expand your project learning will help you become the best you can be. Contact your county 4-H office.

Check out activities at the National Junior Horticulture Association

njha.org/projects.html

Participate in Contests:

- 4-H Horticulture Identification and Judging Contest
- Florida Land Judging
- Public Speaking
- Photo Exhibit
- Poster Art

Attend other statewide events.

Check them out at www.florida-4-h.org

Record Keeping

Learning to take good records of what you do and what you spend for your project is a 4-H life skill.

The following record keeping forms can help you keep a record of your activities.

- Record your garden's progress in a journal or log

- Keep a calendar – include planting dates, weather, pest management applications, fertilizers, etc.

Project Report Forms can be found at florida4h.org

- Junior (ages 8-10)
- Intermediate (ages 11-13)
- Senior (ages 14-18)
- Financial Summary
- Member Portfolio (ages 8-13)

Awards and Recognition

Florida's Recognition Program involves feedback through:

- Participation
- Setting Goals
- Meeting Standards
- Peer Competition
- Cooperation

Certificates, pins, ribbons, trophies, trips and/or scholarships are awarded based on quality of performance at the county, district, state and national levels.

To learn more about current recognition opportunities visit the Florida 4-H website at florida4h.org or contact your county 4-H agent.

Learn more at florida4h.org
or contact your local UF/IFAS Extension County Office

4-H
GROWING TOGETHER