



Farm to School and Early Childhood Education Program



January 2021 Happy New Year!

The Farm to School and Early Childhood Education Program is committed to providing equitable and just programming, resources, funding, and technical assistance to schools, farmers, and partners in the local food system.

Webinars and Trainings

Successful School Garden Programs: Arkansas Farm to School Network Conversation

January 21, 2021, 3:30 p.m.

Join the conversation to hear about Arkansas Farm to School and expert school garden programs. Shannon Newerth-Henson with Kiddie Kollege Alma, Western Arkansas Child Development Inc. and Sara Tyler, Amanda Krell, and Brooke Long with Carolyn Lewis Elementary, Conway Public Schools will share what makes their school garden programs successful. Both schools were winners of the 2020 Arkansas Grown School Garden of the Year Contest.



[Register Here](#)

Missed a previous network conversation?

[Find them on our YouTube Channel](#)

AmeriCorps Positions

Full Circle FarmCorps - AmeriCorps Positions Open

Deadline: Final round consideration by January 6, 2021

The mission of Full Circle FarmCorps is to confront food insecurity and strengthen communities through farming, teaching, and outreach. Join the national service team! Service Member positions in 2021 are available January 11 through August 20 for 38 hours a week.

Dig In for Food, Join FarmCorps!

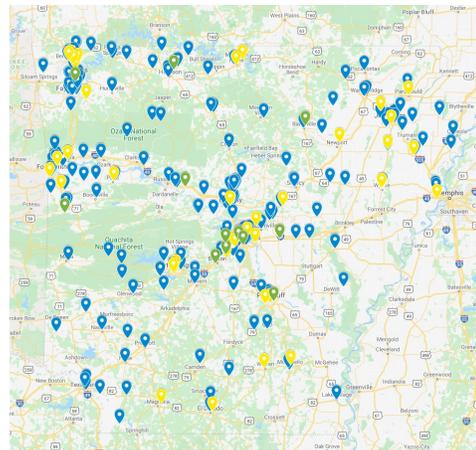


[Apply Here](#)

Resources

Map of School Gardens in Arkansas

The Arkansas Department of Agriculture (Department) is excited to share a map of school gardens in Arkansas. Through conducting outreach to schools across the state, compiling information from a variety of stakeholders, and researching grant funding for school gardens from the last decade and beyond, the Department developed a list and map of school gardens in Arkansas.



There are over 300 sites across the state at K-12 public and private schools, early care and education facilities, and alternative learning environments. Additional information was provided by farm to school partners across the state.

If you'd like to add your garden to the map, contact Hanna Davis, StateSchool Garden Manager, at hanna.davis@agriculture.arkansas.gov.

[View Map Here](#)

Upcoming Grant Opportunities



Arkansas Flower and Garden Show Greening of Arkansas Grant Program

Deadline: January 31, 2021

Funding: Up to \$2,500

The Arkansas Flower and Garden Show provides funding for community beautification projects through the Greening of Arkansas Grant Program. Grants are awarded to non-profit and civic groups for beautification projects on public land. [Apply here.](#)

Arkansas Farm Bureau Outdoor Classroom

Garden Mini-Grant Program

Deadline: February 15, 2021

Funding: Up to \$500

The Outdoor Classroom Garden Mini-Grant Program is designed to show that agriculture is an integral part of our everyday environment. Farms, wildlife, forestry, people, and cities are all interrelated with agriculture. As most of Arkansas's wildlife resides on and feeds off private property, including farms and timberlands, the gardens can demonstrate the connection between agriculture, food, fiber, conservation, wildlife, and the urban environment. Schools, FFA Chapters, and 4-H Clubs with a minimum of 100 students for average daily attendance are eligible to apply. [Apply here.](#)



Blue & You
FOUNDATION

FOR A HEALTHIER ARKANSAS

An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

Blue & You Foundation Mini-Grant

Deadline: February 15, 2021

Funding: \$1,000

Blue & You Foundation offers a simpler application for \$1,000 mini-grants to support health improvement projects in Arkansas. Any health related activity is eligible. Applications for mini-grants will be accepted in the months of January, February, and March, with funding decisions made within 10 days of submission.

[Apply here.](#)

In the News

Arkansas Farm to School Month 2020

Since 2014, October has been proclaimed as Arkansas Farm to School Month following a nationwide trend that was initially designated in 2010 by the National Farm to School Network. In 2020, the Arkansas Department of Agriculture partnered with Heifer USA to host a virtual farm field trip that brought the state together to celebrate local. [Read more here.](#)

[Visit Our Website](#)



ARKANSAS Farm to School