



# 2016 A Garden is the way to Grow

Funds for this project provided by a USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant



To apply for these funds, we ask that your school agree to the following:

- Complete the information below
- Provide signature of administrator authorized to execute contracts on behalf of the School District
- Show adequate support to plant and tend the garden throughout the growing season
- Applicants must:
  - Have an established school garden
  - Keep a log of specialty crop (produce) waste being composted
  - Track the production of the garden for 2 years (2<sup>nd</sup> year after compost applied)
  - Track the number of students involved in the garden project
  - Incorporate a science lesson in the garden compost project /questionnaire
  - Complete a performance report at the conclusion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year
  - Provide us with any pictures, comments, press used in conjunction with this project
  - Submit this request by March 18, 2016

### Recipients will receive:

Up to \*\$400 credit for composting supplies from Gardeners Supply Company and a 25% discount. Items ship directly to the school and are billed to IDALS! Schools can choose from (prices listed before discount) \*Any amount over \$400 will be the responsibility of the school.

- **Choice of composter**
  - Extra-Large, 2-batch compost tumbler (7.4 cu feet) #8588346 \$225
  - Extra-Large, Super-Efficient Dual-Batch Compost Tumbler (25 cu feet) \$529 + additional shipping charges (\$20 - discount does not apply)
  - Deluxe Pyramid Composter (12 cu feet) #36-682 \$169 (requires rodent screen \$24.95)
  - Other items include: aerator, compost thermometer, gloves, giant hands leaf collector and shovels
- **Resource list**
- **Curriculum**
- **Compost book (age appropriate)**

Please email this form to [tammy.stotts@iowaagriculture.gov](mailto:tammy.stotts@iowaagriculture.gov) or fax it by **March 18, 2016**, to 515-281-6178

Selected applicants will be notified by March 23, 2016, priority will be given to first-time applicants

## 2016 Participation Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School Official authorized to execute contracts on behalf of the School District:

\_\_\_\_\_ School Dist. Federal Id#: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grades served: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address (where garden is located) \_\_\_\_\_

School Dist. Main Office Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the following apply to your school: (check all that apply)

- First time applicant for a Garden is the Way to Grow Initiative
- Have a school garden, will expand it
- Have a school garden, will work with food service to get an item incorporated into meal

When was your garden established? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you currently practice composting at your school?  Yes  No

Please briefly describe your current school garden (# of raised beds/size, location, items planted) \_\_\_\_\_

Who currently maintains the school garden? (role 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher...) \_\_\_\_\_

Who will maintain the garden when school is not in session? \_\_\_\_\_

What grade(s) will be primarily involved with the garden? \_\_\_\_\_

Approximately how many people will be involved in the garden? \_\_\_\_\_ Adults \_\_\_\_\_ Students

How many students do you anticipate will benefit from the garden initiative? \_\_\_\_\_

A goal of this grant is to increase the number of students involved in the garden/composting project. Would adding a composting component to your current garden activities involve more students?  Yes  No

What will you do with the food you grow? (check all that apply)

Classroom education

Taste tests or cooking

Used in school meal

Donate

Children take home

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

What grades/class will the composting project target primarily? \_\_\_\_\_

Please briefly describe how and how often you will collect produce waste \_\_\_\_\_

Funding for this project focuses on specialty crops. In addition to creating healthier gardens, this project also tracks specialty crops not being consumed (waste). You will be asked to list the top three fruits/vegetables being composted.

The garden initiative is a two-year project with the first year focusing on composting and the second year utilizing the compost in the garden to measure changes in production with the use of compost. By signing this agreement, you are committing to maintaining at least one raised bed or garden plot for the duration of the agreement.

By signing here you authorize the school to participate in this "Garden is the Way to Grow" initiative. Schools participating in this initiative will be required to complete a Financial & Performance Report. **Any amount spent over the \$400 allocation will be paid by the applicant.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature and printed name of authorized school representative Date**

Refer questions regarding this initiative to: Tammy Stotts [tammy.stotts@iowaagriculture.gov](mailto:tammy.stotts@iowaagriculture.gov) 515-281-7657