

Edible Evanston



Edible Evanston is a program of
Citizens' Greener Evanston
Act Locally. Breathe Globally.

We're Growing New Gardeners!

Join our home gardening group and
receive raised beds in your own yard!

WHO IS EDIBLE EVANSTON?

Edible Evanston encourages Evanston residents to grow and share locally grown food.

We provide opportunities for individuals to expand their knowledge of nutrition, growing food, and composting and to experience the benefits of Evanston-raised produce for themselves.

WHAT IS THE PROGRAM ABOUT?

We installed and supported gardens for 20 families and organizations in 2015–16 with assistance of a grant from the Evanston Community Foundation. We plan for this program to be self-sustaining through private contributions.

WHO IS IT FOR?

Evanstonians who have thought about having their own garden but do not know how to take the first step should apply to let us help you grow that “green thumb.” **Low-income families are encouraged to apply.**

What you get from Edible Evanston:

- Edible Evanston wants to help you build your own garden. We'll provide materials for two raised beds, soil, and some initial plants and seeds.
- You will also receive workshops, a journal to track progress, plus your own personal garden mentor.

Some locations may receive containers if more suitable; others may receive city-provided rain barrels or compost bins.

What you provide:

- Your time and labor to help us build and install your garden, as well as ongoing care and maintenance.
- Participation in required workshops to learn as well as to share your successes and challenges with fellow new gardeners
- A written record of your experiences, growing conditions, and harvests
- An ongoing commitment to food gardening

Your new garden can give you:

- Delicious, nutritious, fresh food you can share with family and friends
- Savings on grocery bills and knowledge of where your food comes from
- Joy and lifelong skills you can share with family and friends

Cost:

You pay only for materials. Typical materials are \$150, but fees range from \$25 to \$300, depending on need and selections. Limited financial assistance is available thanks to other generous gardeners and the start-up grant from the Evanston Community Foundation.

How to apply:

Submit either the paper or online application. We have rolling deadlines.

When:

Successful applicants should expect either October fall or April spring garden installation and should plan to attend an orientation meeting.



learn more and apply at EdibleEvanston.org

Edible Evanston New Vegetable Garden Program Application

Please answer the following questions. Your responses determine if your household qualifies, and, optionally, if it qualifies for financial assistance. Your personal information will be kept confidential. Limited slots are available.

Optionally, include a separate sheet to tell us more about your gardening experience and current gardening situation as well as what the most important things are which you hope to gain from this program. Photos of your planned space are appreciated.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Planned Gardening Address, if different: _____

City/State: Evanston, Illinois (you must reside in Evanston or Evanston/Skokie 60203 to qualify) ZIP: _____

Phone(s): _____ Email: _____

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. Do you own or have permission from the owner to garden on the property? Yes No
2. Do you have outdoor space at your home/apartment that receives **at least six hours of sunlight daily** and will accommodate two garden beds that measure 4 ft. by 4 ft. each? Yes No
If you answered NO, do you have an alternative type of space (patio, etc.) for a container garden?
Describe: _____
3. How many adults (18+) are in your household? _____ How many children? _____
4. Do you have mobility challenges that will be a barrier to gardening in an 8" tall bed? Yes No
(If so, we will contact you to see if we can accommodate you.)
5. Are you, or is someone in your household, physically able to participate in the installation? Yes Yes, with limitations No
6. How much experience do you have growing food? None Some A Lot

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

7. **Are you seeking financial assistance from us in the form of subsidized materials?** Without assistance, participation in the program is about \$150 to cover materials for garden construction, due on the day of your build. All labor is done by volunteers and is free to participants. We ask for a minimum \$25 payment from all participants. *(By answering yes and signing this form you confirm that in the past 6 months you received benefits from one or more of the following: EBT/SNAP/Food Stamps; Medicaid Disability Benefits; WIC; Unemployment; School District Free/Reduced Lunch; or a Food Pantry.)* Yes No

COMMITMENT AND PROGRAM REQUIREMENT QUESTIONS

8. Are you willing to grow vegetables, herbs and fruits in the garden beds this year? Yes No
9. Are you prepared to devote regular time May through October to caring for your garden? Yes No
(Planting, weeding, watering and harvesting and all other gardening activities are your responsibility. We will offer gardening-related workshops and personal gardener support through the season.)
10. Will you keep a record of your garden harvest and provide a journal to Edible Evanston? Yes No
(We will provide you with a journal and guidelines.)
11. Will you attend required workshops and co-mentoring programs to discuss successes, failures, and challenges several times in the next year? Yes No
12. Will you attend a mandatory orientation? (Date TBA) Yes No

I have answered the above questions accurately. I understand that my responses determine if my household qualifies, and, optionally, if it qualifies for financial assistance. My personal information will be kept confidential. Limited slots are available and the Edible Evanston volunteer team has full discretion in selecting participants and awarding a level of financial assistance. I understand Edible Evanston may make a short observational visit to my proposed site to check conditions.

Printed Name _____

CGEWEATHER

Signature _____

Date _____

Contact Linda with any questions at 847-651-1197 or email newgardeners@edibleevanston.org.

Please send completed application to: Edible Evanston, c/o IDG, 1327 Greenleaf St, Evanston IL 60202 or email your application to newgardeners@edibleevanston.org. **This application is also available at edibleevanston.org**