South Walton Community Garden

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Why Start a Community Garden?

- Improve nutrition and health
- Teach others to garden
- Increase awareness about the environment
- Reduce crime and stress
- Create green space and beauty
- FUN!
Types of Gardens

- Educational
- Fund raising
- Food pantry or charity
- Family or individual plots
- School projects
- Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)
Community Garden Project

Location

LOCATION
Identify a Coordinator

- Horticulture Knowledge
- Passion/Enthusiasm
- Time
- Patience
- Creativity
Other Considerations

- Site
- Soil testing and soil amendments
- Fund raising, grants, sponsors
  - (seeds, shed, fence, insurance, etc.)
- Selling produce
- Guidelines and rules
- Signage
- Publicity and public relations
Issues

- Animals
- Security
- Volunteers
- Water and electricity
- Tools and equipment
- Surplus produce
UF/IFAS Extension’s Role

- Expertise
  - Horticulture Agent
  - Family & Consumer Sciences Agent
  - Master Gardeners

- General Assistance
  - Soil testing
  - Publicity
  - Organizational structure (nonprofit, bylaws)
  - Educational programs (gardening, nutrition)
Community Garden Project

Sources:

Starting a Community Garden

Starting a Community Vegetable Garden
http://aces.nmsu.edu/pubs/_h/H-246.pdf
Questions and Discussion