

## Extension Master Gardener Volunteers of Wake County Support Services for School and Community Gardens

### Master Gardener volunteers CAN help you with:

- ✓ **Research-based resources:** accurate information on garden design, seasonal planting, pest and disease control, and more.
- ✓ **Site selection and evaluation:** evaluate potential garden sites (sun, water, soil health, shade, etc.)
- ✓ **Advice on garden planning, design, and construction:** physical layout, number and type of beds, accessibility, soil testing, irrigation systems, mulching, weed control
- ✓ **Planting plans:** what, when, where, and how to plant, including indoor seed-starting methods and transplants
- ✓ **Information on sourcing materials:** where to purchase or potentially obtain donations for soil, compost, mulch, seeds, transplants, lumber, and other garden materials
- ✓ **Gardening instructions:** how to care for and harvest different seasonal plants
- ✓ **Curriculum support:** help identifying sources of garden-based curriculum that meet North Carolina/Wake County requirements
- ✓ **Advice on funding allocation:** assistance prioritizing garden needs for efficient use of funds from grants or other sources of income
- ✓ **Garden problem-solving:** problem determination and advice for issues in the garden (disease and pest control, drainage, etc.)
- ✓ **Team building:** provide resources and potential support for team-building and organizational structure of garden team (Ex. Collard Greens and Common Ground: A North Carolina Community Gardening Handbook, Forsyth County's sample Organizational Structure and Rules document, etc.)
- ✓ **Occasional educational opportunities:** may be able to occasionally lead classes and educational programs in the garden

### Master Gardener volunteers CANNOT help you with:

- × **Garden maintenance:** Master Gardener volunteers cannot provide ongoing physical support to school and community gardens in Wake County. This includes requests to lead volunteer workdays and construction projects, perform garden maintenance tasks (such as weeding, watering, planting, mulching, harvesting, etc.), or regularly lead classes or educational programs in the garden.

Questions? Contact us at [mgardener@wakegov.com](mailto:mgardener@wakegov.com) or 919-250-1084 (M-F, 9am-12pm, 1pm-4pm)

*Adapted from NC Cooperative Extension- Guilford County Center's "Master Gardener Support Services for School Gardens"*