

YOUTH Garden Project Goals

Students from grades 4 thru 12 are eligible. Participants will learn to:

- Grow salad vegetables and herbs in a simple hydroponic system.
- Monitor their hydroponic plant crops by checking pH, electrical conductivity, temperature, and nutrient flow controls.
- Price their hydroponic crops at a competitive, market value.
- Identify strategies to grow salad greens and tomatoes within their home, school, or neighborhood center.
- Understand what is involved with becoming an agricultural entrepreneur.



Contact:

North Elementary School
825 Chestnut Ridge Road
Morgantown, WV 26505

Tel: 304-291-9280

Natalie Webb: nlwebb@k12.wv.us

Laurie Ruberg: lruberg@gmail.com

Workshop Agenda

- 8:00 – Workshop check-in
- 8:30 – Welcome & start-up
- 8:45 – Confirm YOUTH Garden Teams
- 9:00 – Introduction to hydroponics
- 9:15 – Teams pick up & check their hydroponic kit
- 9:30 – Review & compare crop growth profiles & trial market prices
- 10:00 – Intro to YOUTH Garden business plan and spreadsheets
- 11:30 – Lunch and Taste Testing
- 12:30 – Demonstration of putting together and operating YOUTH Garden plant growth systems
- 1:30 – YOUTH Garden teams practice assembling their hydroponic system, choosing their initial crops, and completing “start-up” business plan materials
- 3:30 – YOUTH Garden teams report out what crop(s) they’ve chosen to start their hydroponic system, and describe their plan for coordinating their team activities
- 4:15 – Recap of events & next steps

Registration Form

Please detach this section and mail to North Elementary by **June 16, 2017**. Registration is limited. There is a **\$25 registration fee** that will be collected at the time of check-in to the workshop on **June 21, 2017 between 8:00-8:30** at North Elementary School.

Name of parent or adult team leader:

Name and age of youth team members:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Address of parent or adult team leader:

Phone number for adult leader:

Email for adult leader:

School or Youth organization affiliation:

Proposed team name:

Send registration to:

North Elementary
825 Chestnut Ridge Road
Morgantown, WV 26505

Registration deadline: June 16, 2017

Workshop Date: Wed, June 21, 2017

Workshop Time: 8:30– 4:30

Things to Remember:

- A \$25 registration per team will be collected at the time of check-in to the workshop.
- Lunch will be provided.
- Teams may consist of 2-4 people. Each team must include an adult leader or a parent.
- Each team receives a hydroponics kit, seeds, and materials to guide their business plan and crop monitoring processes.

The Workshop Team



North Elementary School expands its fully-integrated garden-based learning program to include hydroponics through the efforts of principal Natalie Webb and kindergarten teacher Laura VanHorn. Partial funding for the YOUTH Gardens project is provided by a WVU College of Business Corporate Citizenship grant.

West Virginia University Cooperative Extension Service partners with North Elementary to help grow its garden-based learning curriculum. Tom McConnell, WVU Extension Small Farm Center Program Leader, will tell youth how to create a business plan.

PLANTS, LLC led by Laurie Ruberg, is a WV-based business that focuses on using hydroponic plant production systems to promote STEM education and youth entrepreneurship.

Wed, June 21, 2017
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
North Elementary School



YOUTH Gardens Workshop

Youth Operate, Understand, and Test Hydroponic Gardens -- growing salad greens while creating a business plan to market their hydroponic produce.

Preparing West Virginia youth for possible careers as tech-savvy, STEM-smart agricultural entrepreneurs

