Metro Nashville Public Schools
School Planning and Construction
School Gardens

Prior to beginning construction of a school garden, approval must be received from the office of School Planning and Construction. SPC is required to evaluate any impact to the overall school property, including possible future expansion. Additionally, SPC will review the garden concept and offer design and planning suggestions.

The following information should be included in the submittal to SPC:

- approval by the school principal of the project
- location of garden in relationship to the school building and property
- layout of proposed garden, including the following:
  - planting areas
  - walkways or pathways in and around planting areas
  - location of raised beds or planting tables
  - location, size, and finishes of any buildings, storage sheds, etc.
- location of ADA Handicapped parking, sidewalks, fences, etc. near the garden
- location of any proposed utilities, including water and electricity
- estimate of cost of the project, along with funding source
- proposed timetable for project

Consideration should be given to the following issues:

- review of and compliance with the School and Community Gardens ADA Guidelines
- how will students travel from the school to the garden
- how will volunteers and community participants travel to the garden
- any buildings or structures may require the services of licensed architects or engineers
- the garden and access to the garden must be approved by the Metro ADA Compliance Office
- access to and within the garden must be on an acceptable surface and must be level within the slopes allowed by ADA
- acceptable surfaces include grass, concrete, pavement, compacted crushed stone
- soil and mulch are not acceptable surfaces
- the final design must indicate the design of any raised beds or planting tables
- any structures, patios, decks, picnic tables must comply with ADA
- any substantial structure may require a Metro Building Permit
- review by SPC, ADA, and Metro Codes can take several weeks

Electronic submittals are preferred. Information should be submitted to:

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