

Success Stories in Sustainability: **Common Ground Program** Lawrence, KS

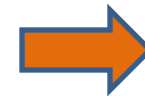


www.lawrenceks.org/commonground

Our Local Food System



54%
OVERWEIGHT/OBESITY RATE



10,000+
RESIDENTS WITH LIMITED
ACCESS TO GROCERY STORES
& HEALTHY FOOD CHOICES

\$392 M
AMOUNT SPENT BY
TRICOUNTY RESIDENTS ON
FOOD PURCHASES EACH
YEAR



<0.1%
FARMLAND IN OUR
TRICOUNTY AREA DEVOTED
TO VEGETABLE
PRODUCTION

Common Ground Program Goals:

- ✓ **Support the local food economy** by providing land for entrepreneurs looking to start or scale-up their food production business.
- ✓ **Support our community's healthy food initiatives** by providing a source of local, nutritious food.
- ✓ **Help address food access issues**, as licenses will include a community benefit component (i.e. % donation to food pantry or other organizations that serve families in need).
- ✓ **Provide a potential agritourism site.**
- ✓ **Support neighborhoods** and create vibrant spaces for community building.
- ✓ **Avoid the maintenance costs** of maintaining currently-idle land with City/County resources.

Vacant lot: 1313 Pennsylvania



Penn. St. Community Garden



Vacant lot: 830 Garfield



Lawrence Community Orchard



John Taylor Park



Garden Incubator at John Taylor Park



Vacant lot: 815 Oak



JCCC Student Farm



Vacant Lot: 1304 Pennsylvania



PermaCommons Garden



Vacant Lot: 639 Illinois St.



Pearl Clark Community Garden



commonground
COMMUNITY GARDEN

Pearl Clark

QUESTIONS? CONTACT:
Michael Morley
785-218-5061



24/40 Hwy (adjacent KDOT & Maple Grove Cemetery)



TeePee Junction Incubator Farm



2013 Program Accomplishments:

Number of gardens/farms: **9**

Acres in food production: **5.6**

Number of gardeners/farmers: **120**

Number of classes/community work days: **54**

Number of volunteers/community participants: **463**

Pounds of produce grown (*estimate*): **40,000**

Market value of produce (*estimate*): **\$80,000**

Pounds of donated produce (reported): **2,000**

Community Benefit Plan Partners:

Just Food

The Ballard Center

LINK

Trinity Episcopal Church

Lawrence Food Garden tour

Kaw Valley Seed Fair

Kaw Valley Permaculture Tour

Central Middle School

2014 Program Timeline:

December 2nd: Request for Applications Announced

December 9th: Public Information Meeting

January 6th: Applications Due

Mid-January: Recommendations Provided to the City
Commission