



Grace Covenant Community Garden

798 Merrimon Avenue, Asheville,
NC

The Community Garden, begun in 2010, is a three-season garden, tended spring through fall. The garden has been tended by vested volunteer gardeners from Grace Covenant Church and from the community. The garden volunteers are organized into 4 teams, each working every other week either on a Wednesday or Saturday morning. About 75% of the vegetables produced are donated to community organizations that serve our neighbors unable to afford fresh vegetables and in need of better nutrition. In addition to the garden at Grace Covenant Church, the gardeners often grow potatoes and cabbage with Anthony Cole's family at [Jasperwood Farm](#) in Leicester

Some of the community organizations we donate vegetables to:

[YWCA](#)

[YMCA](#)

[Youth Transformed for Life](#)

[Southside Community Kitchen](#)

[Loving Food Resources](#)

Basic Facts about Grace Covenant Garden

- Our community garden is grown **Farm Style**. Crops are planted in blocks with the same growing requirements. This planting practice facilitates replanting different crops during the garden season. Crops are not interplanted or mixed with competing crops.
- **Crop Selection** is based on which vegetables are most desired and used by area community kitchens and food pantries & which crops typically produce healthy and high yield fruit.
- **Seeds are** purchased from independent seed farms, such as Johnnies. We select varieties that have demonstrated disease resistance or tolerance. No GMO seeds.
- **The Garden is typically CLOSED on Mondays** for disease and insect treatment using low spray, primarily organic pesticides. Commercial fertilizers are used based on annual soil tests. We follow the guidelines of the [Southeastern US Vegetable Crop Handbook](#) written by the SE Agricultural and Land Grant Colleges and Universities.
- **Gardeners may harvest** for their family table during regular Team harvest times and at other times in consultation with their Team Leader. Crops generally benefit from frequent harvesting as they mature.
- **Each Team** has a Team Leader who works with the gardeners to coordinate the morning's activities, teach techniques for planting and harvesting and share the results of their Team's work with other Team Leaders and the Garden Steering Committee

We partner with our neighboring McDonald's to compost and use their coffee grounds in the garden—a McDonald's business practice toward sustainability and reducing waste. Mc Donald's generously purchased our large, wire composting bins. "Composting with coffee is a great way to make use of something that would otherwise end up taking up space in a landfill. Composting coffee grounds helps to add nitrogen to your compost pile." Click [here](#) to learn more about [composting with coffee grounds](#).

Interested in knowing more or joining one of our garden teams? Please contact:

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