

# Edible Landscapes

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Facilities Managers Meeting

May 11, 2017



# Definitions

## Edible Landscaping:

- Incorporating food producing plants into the landscape.
- Fruit and nut trees, vegetables, herbs, edible flowers and shrubs with berries can be combined to create an attractive design that produces fruits and vegetables for home consumption.

– Ohio State Extension: Edible Landscaping Factsheet.



## Urban Agriculture:

- Growing or producing food in a heavily populated area and **selling it**.
- Most often sold fresh and local. Not grown just for personal consumption.
- Agriculture is almost always a regulated activity. Producing food for people to eat is a big responsibility and not to be entered into without a great deal of thought and planning.





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# Edible Landscapes Project at Sellery, Smith & Cole & Bascom Halls



The Edible Landscapes Project is an outreach project from FH King students for sustainable agriculture





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# Campus Wide Policy – why is this needed?

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- Currently a popular trend
- Is a big responsibility – in effort and in food safety
- Various departments receive requests
- Standardizing the response – administered by Facilities Planning & Management
- Requiring this activity be carried out responsibly and assuring it is not left to university staff to take care of or restore

# Campus Wide Policy – Facility Manager's Role

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- Direct Requests to FP&M Customer Service website
  - Will be adding a link similar to the Banner Request Link
- You will be consulted once an application is received to determine any special situations around the building.
- If approved the group would need to coordinate water use and occasionally access with you.
  - If vehicular access is requested the group must also contact FP&M Grounds, this will be a very limited occurrence.

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# Campus Wide Policy – applicability

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Applies to:

- Any group, affiliated with the UW-Madison and sponsored by a UW-Madison Department
- Groups without a UW-Madison affiliation are not allowed to apply for a permit to create an edible landscape.
- This applies to all grounds of the UW-Madison Campus and includes courtyards within buildings with the below exemptions.

Does not apply to:

- Eagle Heights Community Gardens and the CALS Plots (including F. H. King Students for Sustainable Agriculture and the Green House Community)
- Botany Garden & Allen Centennial Garden
- Landscapes managed by FP&M Grounds Department.
- Areas inside of buildings such as atriums or entryways.



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College of Ag & Life Sciences Research Plots

F. H. King Students for Sustainable Agriculture

Green House Learning Community





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# Eagle Heights Community Gardens at Eagle Heights and University Houses

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# Allen Centennial Gardens





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# General Rules 1/2 DRAFT

- Must be affiliated with UW-Madison, have a department sponsorship and provide at least three contacts

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- The group must have an approved permit and signed memorandum of understanding re: the use of the land.
- Area must pass standard and lead soil testing.
- Must display a standard sign.
- Edible landscapes will not be allowed at:
  - Currently landscaped beds
  - Bascom Hill, Camp Randall Memorial Park, Camp Randall North Lawn, East Campus Mall, Vilas Green, Engineering Mall, Henry Mall, Lakeshore Nature Preserve, Library Mall, Observatory Hill, and UW-Madison Arboretum
- A valid educational value must be clearly stated.
- Harvest must be open to public.
- Gatherings are not allowed.





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# General Rules 2/2 DRAFT

- Intent is for annual and occasionally perennial plants used for food.
  - Plant support structures and approved planters are the only objects allowed.
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- Herbicides and Pesticides are PROHIBITED.
  - Fully composted fertilizers are the only ones allowed.
  - Soil amendments will be discussed during the permit process.
  - Unattended watering devices are not allowed.
  - Weeding, watering, harvesting, and winter preparation are the responsibility of the group.

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# Permit Application & MOU DRAFT

Responsible group and sponsoring department

Intent – goals and educational value

Project description - location, photos, size, scope, plantings, layout, etc.

Maintenance Plan – set up, watering, weeding, removal of debris, tool storage, access

Harvest Plan - when and what going to do with the produce

Communication Plan – what the story and how will you tell it? To who?

Project Funding – for installation, maintenance, harvest, cleanup

MOU - will document all information and require signature from the  
sponsoring department

