

Discover the Food Security Garden

The Food Security Garden is a collaboration between the OSU Master Gardener program and ACCESS, the non-profit Community Action Agency that helps Jackson County residents break the cycle of poverty. This garden grows food for the needy households in the county while training volunteers in larger scale food production.

Look For:

- This garden employs predator insectaries, beetle banks, pollinator-attracting plants, and other Integrated Pest Control techniques to enhance pollination and control of pests.
- In spite of being a half-acre in size, this garden employs hand tools only; no machinery is used for crop cultivation. The garden demonstrates and teaches methods of no-till agriculture.
- There's a difference in the soil texture between the plowed field on your right and the non-plowed field of the Food Security Garden. Soil aggregates have been maintained, which are great for worms, beneficial soil microorganisms, and water retention.

Garden Tips:

- Building exceptional soil biology by layering organic materials, not tilling, and only minimally disturbing the soil is a fundamental practice of growing healthy, resilient plants.
- Walking on your garden beds causes compaction and reduced air space, which inhibits plant growth. Create clear paths so that visitors know where to step in your garden.
- The growing techniques practiced in this garden follow the methods described in *The Market Gardener* by Jean-Martin Fortier who makes a six-figure income by cultivating one acre of land.

