Educator and Volunteer Enrichment Offerings

Our Cornell Garden-Based Learning program offers professional enrichment programs for educators in New York State. Workshops are developed in collaboration with a county-based CCE educators, volunteers and partnering garden-based learning stakeholders and each is designed specifically to meet real garden-based learning program needs. These workshops may range considerably, from two hours, to half and full-day interactive sessions including topics such as, but not limited to:

- garden-based learning principles and practices;
- ecological gardening techniques;
- advancing human, youth and community development with the garden as a springboard;
- program development, organization, and expansion;
- tips for raising funds and sustaining garden programs;
- the basics of garden design;
- compost and healthy soils;
- leading programs effectively;
- interdisciplinary connections, such as how the garden enlivens education from math and science to nature awareness and nutrition;
- integrating garden-based curricula into schools and other settings;
- and how to integrate program assessment and evaluation throughout your work.

Interested in hosting a workshop?

Our CGBL educator enrichment specialist collaborates with educators in New York State to host and facilitate workshops. Partners may include Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) County offices and the non-profits or community organizations in their communities. Objectives for educator enrichment may include and are not limited to:

- Promoting CGBL garden-based learning resources with a positive human, youth and community development focus.
- Fostering among educators and volunteers an ability to: integrate garden education into their scope of work; help to ensure that gardens projects are successful and sustainable; and grow garden-based leadership in all regions of New York State.
- Assisting educators as they promote the garden as an avenue to growing in diverse life skills, experiences and community leadership.
- Guiding educators and volunteers as they learn about how to be most effective, adhere to their program vision, and assess whether they are reaching their program goals.
- Growing robust community partnerships, coalition building, and linkages to other programs.

"I came away feeling inspired and rejuvenated with lots of great information and new connections. Much more than I could have expected!" - Workshop Participant

To collaborate, email Fiona Doherty, fcd9@cornell.edu.