**CSU Extension launches victory gardens for the age of COVID-19 with Grow & Give**

Coloradoans across the state are being encouraged to participate in CSU Extension’s new gardening initiative [Grow & Give](https://cmg.extension.colostate.edu/grow-give/), a modern Victory Garden project designed for citizens to grow vegetable gardens and plant extra to share with local food banks and community members in need.

Victory gardens were planted on public and private land during World War I and World War II to reduce pressure on the public food supply. Roughly 40% of the U.S. vegetables grown in those years came from 20 million victory gardens.

Through the new [Grow & Give](https://source.colostate.edu/csu-extension-launches-victory-gardens-for-the-age-of-covid-19-with-grow-give/) program, CSU Extension is encouraging people to take advantage of their time at home during the COVID-19 pandemic to get outside and plant gardens, whether they are longtime gardeners or first-time planters.

“During a time when there is so much bad news and uncertainty, we are giving Coloradans a positive opportunity to contribute locally,” said Katie Dunker, statewide coordinator for the CSU Extension [Master Gardener](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=feKxOYXBeQ4&feature=youtu.be) program. “We have wrapped our arms around something that is very tangible and accessible and are using university resources and expertise to promote growing food in every corner of the state to help those in need. This is what Extension does; this is who we are. Education and outreach are the very fabric of what a land-grant university does.”

**CSU Extension offers gardening resources for home gardeners**

CSU has been dedicated to helping Coloradans grow for 150 years. This year, Colorado-specific food growing resources are being located on one site: <http://growandgivecolorado.org>. Resources are updated weekly as the season changes and provides information for all regions of our state. Join us and grow for your family and others. We’re dedicated to your success in the garden!

**CSU Extension supports sharing the harvest**

Fresh produce distributed to those in need is the core component of the Grow&Give project. CSU has synthesized tips on what to grow for donation and how to connect with organizations who would love to receive it.Our hope is that gardening and giving promotes a healthier, more mindful, and more sustainable lifestyle for you and your community.

 **About CSU Extension**

Charged with serving all 64 counties across the state of Colorado, CSU Extension empowers Coloradans to address important and emerging community issues using dynamic, science-based educational resources. The Colorado Master Gardener program is an extension program focused on enhancing Colorado communities through outreach, education and environmental stewardship. Learn more at <http://coloradomastergardener.org>.

**About the Colorado Master Gardener Program**

Master Gardeners enhance Colorado communities through outreach, education and environmental stewardship. Focused on home horticulture, Colorado Master Gardeners work to enhance Coloradans’ quality of life by extending knowledge-based education to local communities, helping individuals make informed decisions about plants and fostering successful gardeners while protecting neighborhood environments. The Colorado Master Gardener program is powered by Colorado State University Extension and is active in over 40 counties across the state with 1400 CSU volunteers serving in their local communities.

**Recent Press:**

* CSU The Source: <https://source.colostate.edu/csu-extension-launches-victory-gardens-for-the-age-of-covid-19-with-grow-give/>
* KUNC Radio: <https://www.kunc.org/post/colorado-edition-functional-fashionable-controversial>
* ABC Denver News: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TSMg3kjuUAg](https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DTSMg3kjuUAg&data=02%7C01%7Ckatie.dunker%40colostate.edu%7C58f9541c6eb04044c97f08d800a204da%7Cafb58802ff7a4bb1ab21367ff2ecfc8b%7C0%7C0%7C637260043201177455&sdata=HCLC3r5kGGLKz0a0acAdWKwj3LYmXnRI8lHNDkc3HGM%3D&reserved=0)
* NBC Denver 9News: <https://www.9news.com/article/news/local/next/with-the-war-against-coronavirus-raging-victory-gardens-are-back-heres-how-to-grow-yours/73-9fdba6c7-0264-4da8-aa43-cd0dd6c3274c>
* CBS Denver News: <https://denver.cbslocal.com/2020/05/18/grow-give-csu-plant-vegetables-give-surplus-food-bank/>