

Start a Garden Club

Individual garden clubs can focus on specific local interests while also enjoying the opportunity to network regionally and nationally.

Considering Starting a New Club?

- Are you and your neighbors interested in beautification of your neighborhood or town?
- Do you want to learn how to grow your own vegetables - even on your patio?
- Are you concerned about environmental issues facing your community?
- Do you wish you knew how to landscape your yard, plant a container garden on your porch or make a floral centerpiece for your dinner table?
- Focus on any or all of these things while building friendships and bettering your community and environment!

Find New Members

- Consider posting on social media or distributing flyers in your area to gain the attention of potential members. Public spaces such as libraries, community centers, universities, botanical gardens, nurseries, and garden centers are a good place to start.
- Select a Meeting Place
- Set the date and time for the first meeting; discuss the best meeting day and time moving forward with your new members. Libraries or community centers often have meeting rooms available where club business may be conducted. Local nurseries may also be willing to provide space in exchange for free advertising to club members.

Determine the Club's Purpose and Goals

Will the club purpose be singular or multifaceted? If the focus is on a singular purpose, what will it be?

- Landscape Design
- Floral Design
- Community's Environmental Issues
- Horticulture
- Church members who do floral design for worship services and landscaping of the church
- Educate the community about specific gardening practices
- Beautification of the local community/park
- Work with youth to ensure the next generation of gardeners

How often will the club meet to accomplish these goals?

Will the format of the meetings be informal or formal?

Organize

First steps in organizing a club typically include:

- Electing officers
- Determining the amount of dues based on expenses of programs, rent and projects
- Writing Bylaws

Become affiliated with National Garden Clubs (NGC)

A new club becomes affiliated with National Garden Clubs by joining the state garden club that is a member of National Garden Clubs.

These affiliations bring benefits like invitations to conferences and specially arranged tours and access to well-known speakers.

Network in your Community

After your club forms, make sure you introduce yourself to the community. Network with local resources like county extension agencies, universities and local nurseries and garden centers. Let others know what your club is all about and who can be contacted to answer questions or respond to inquiries. Find out what resources may be of benefit to the members of your club, and what your club can offer to others in the community.

Whether starting your own club, or joining one that is already established, you'll enjoy the encouragement you receive from others, learn better ways to beautify your environment and get acquainted with like-minded members of your community.