



Greens Farms Garden Club
P.O. Box 105, Greens Farms, CT 06838
www.greensfarmsgardenclub.org

Proud member of The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut, Inc.; the New England Garden Clubs, Inc.; and the National Garden Clubs, Inc.

For more information about Greens Farms Garden Club, Growing for Good, and its other programs, connect with us online at...



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Special Thanks To

- Prospect Gardens' Owners, John and Melissa Ceriale, for lending their vegetable garden
- Prospect Gardens' Landscape Designer, Cindy Shumate, for her professional plan & design guidance
- Wakeman Town Farm for its donation of plot #8
- Ganim's and Gilbertie's Garden Centers for their donations, discounts and especially to Lee Ganim for his invaluable vegetable gardening guidance



Prospect Gardens, Westport, CT



If the image that comes to mind when you hear the phrase "garden club" is one of ladies in summer hats sipping tea in a rose bower, Greens Farms Garden Club is going to throw you for a loop. While Club members do sip tea from time to time, on summer mornings they are much more likely to be up to their elbows in dirt - planting, weeding or harvesting vegetables - at the Club's "Growing for Good" gardens, located at the Town of Westport's Wakeman Town Farm and at Prospect Gardens on land made available to the Club through the generosity of the Ceriale family.

"Growing for Good" (GFG) was founded in 2021 to provide organic vegetables and herbs for those in the greater Fairfield County community who lacked access to fresh produce. The project, which began on a small scale as an experiment, has been both refined and expanded over the years to become a major focus of the Club's service efforts, in furtherance of its dual mission to expand horticultural knowledge and promote the benefits of locally grown, organic produce. There is no better ambassador for the mission than the taste of those vegetables and herbs picked fresh from the garden!



The primary recipient of the Club's harvest is Mercy Learning Center, an organization based in Bridgeport, Connecticut that educates adult women who want to complete their high school education or learn to speak English. Because many of the women lack access to transportation and the space to grow a garden themselves, the organic produce they receive from GFG is a welcome food supplement that helps them better care for their families. With input from the Mercy students, GFG gardeners have added herbs and vegetables most desired by the recipients. With input from the gardeners, the women of Mercy have tried new varieties of garden greens. It's a two-way exchange that works for everyone.

Each new season comes with weather and other surprises, and so GFG has also proved to be a horticultural classroom. GFG gardeners have learned to hone their skills and adapt to whatever conditions the summer brings, ending year after year with a bountiful harvest. A collaborative effort, the program has also welcomed local nursery partners and community volunteers, including even members of the Mercy Learning Center Board. "Growing for Good" has had a greater reach and bigger impact than its founders could have imagined, growing not only organic food, but also the spirit of generosity and caring that makes a community a home.

