

RUTGERS MASTER GARDENERS OF MONMOUTH COUNTY SCHOOL GARDEN CONFERENCE

Are you interested in learning about school gardens, starting or improving one, or simply taking academics outdoors?

The Rutgers Master Gardeners of Monmouth County School Programs Committee will hold their **Third Annual School Garden Conference** on March 24th to provide you with information, demonstrations, resources, support, and guidance, and answer your questions.

By participating, you can learn from schools that have established gardens, newly created gardens, or gardens presently in the planning stage.

Everyone is welcome to attend. **You do not have to live in Monmouth County.** Attendees are formal (teachers) and non-formal (Master Gardeners, park naturalists, library personnel, etc.) educators, school administrators, superintendents, grounds staff, parents, and PTO members.

The conference not only covers school garden information, but also environmental education topics relevant to students regardless of whether or not your school has a garden. Here, educators can network and explore curriculum and Standards connections.

There will be demonstrations on a variety of topics. From bee-keeping to returning food waste to the soil, hydroponics and micro greens, from composting with worms to learning how to plant seeds and making plantable paper, there is much to explore.

There will be a variety of fact sheets available to address topics attendees have requested on their registration forms. Master Gardeners will be on site to answer your questions.

The Conference fee is \$25 and includes a continental breakfast and lunch.

Whole group presentations will be held in the morning, followed by lunch. After lunch, attendees will be free to browse the various interest stations and demonstrations to delve into topics that are meaningful to their particular situation. A variety of tables from outside agencies and organizations will provide information and support on many school gardening and environmental education topics. In addition, there will be make-and-take opportunities.

Feel free to post and distribute this information and the attached reservation form to others who may be interested.