



History of CCGA

Our city is home to hundreds of community gardens, and Chicago Community Gardeners Association has created a network that is truly gardener-designed and gardener-led. To ensure the sustainability and vibrancy of community gardens for years to come, our CCGA working groups meet regularly to connect and support gardeners in conserving water and keeping plants and soil healthy.



CCGA Highlights

- The current working groups of CCGA are Membership, Resources, Education, and Communications. The main goals of these working groups are to host the Annual Gardeners Conference, organize plant distributions, develop and maintain shared resources, sponsor membership, coordinate volunteers in gardens, and facilitate communication among gardeners.
- The CCGA Resources Committee cultivates seedlings and oversees plant distributions throughout the year. It distributes plants to over 130 gardens, on average, including 2,000 spring annuals and 5,000 vegetable and flowers. Additionally, over 9,000 plants are distributed to an average of 75 gardens represented at each of the three summer perennial distributions. In the fall, 4,800 bulbs were distributed to 60 gardens.
- The CCGA Education Committee works to develop educational events and plan workshops sponsored by or coordinated through CCGA. Members recommend the educational workshops to be presented at each year's conference. Additionally, they develop educational workshops throughout the year. Workshops have included culinary and medicinal herbs, beneficial insects, fermentation, and tool care.
- The CCGA Annual Gardeners Conference draws over 250 gardeners representing all areas of Chicago.
- The CCGA network of gardeners is growing, with over 1,600 active email subscribers and 1,166 Facebook followers, with more joining every day.