



## ***HOW TO HELP TEACHERS FEEL COMFORTABLE USING THE SCHOOL GARDEN***

### **Survey your site and identify what will make the garden more welcoming for teachers to use:**

- Does the garden have shade?
- Does the garden have a seating area?
- Does the garden have teaching tools?

### **Install signs and labels to help non-gardeners learn about plants and spaces.**

Ex. composting area, butterfly habitat, etc.

### **Create a repository for activities and lessons that are integrated with the district curriculum.**

List them on a spectrum from simple, no-prep, short activities to full lessons.

### **Spend extra time with new teachers at the school, explaining how to use the garden and what resources are available to them.**

### **Create communication channels to share garden developments with:**

- Administrators
- Teachers
- Students

### **Hold a training orientation at the beginning of the year.**

Allow the teachers to:

- tour the garden
- learn about features
- review requirements for use, such as sign up processes or key check-outs

### **Organize planting opportunities that are easy for teachers to participate in, and that fit into their schedules.**

**You can teach any subject in the garden!! Take your existing classroom lessons outside for a change of scenery and to incorporate hands-on experiences into your lessons.**

**Contact [edenut@utexas.edu](mailto:edenut@utexas.edu) for help**