

Alabama 4-H Grows

Tiers I and II

Garden Project

The Alabama 4-H Grows Garden Project offers youth from both rural and urban settings hands-on gardening experiences. Each tier, or level, provides a different gardening experience by directly engaging in getting-their-hands-dirty gardening education. Because this is a pilot project, we will be limiting the number of participants (individual or clubs) to 30 for tier I and 40 for tier II during the summer of 2019.

Tier I addresses issues including limited gardening experience and limited access to gardening space, such as living in an apartment or an urban setting. Youth enrolled in the tier I project will receive three 5-gallon buckets, soil, and three Bonnie Plants (Green Griller Zucchini, Sweet and Neat Tomato, and Bonnie Green Bell Pepper) or comparable plants. The focus will be on learning to garden and incorporating fresh vegetables into family meals. Participants will also be required to keep a gardening journal.



Tier II continues the development of gardening skills while providing gardening experiences that promote production and the comparison of multiple varieties and increased number of plants. The summer project will include the following types of plants: tomato (3), bell pepper (2), banana pepper (2), jalapeño pepper (2), zucchini (2), yellow squash (2), or comparable plants. The focus will continue to be on learning to garden, incorporating fresh vegetables into family meals, and adding a community component requiring the participant to donate 10 percent of produce grown to the community. Participants will be required to keep a gardening journal.

Are you ready to garden?

Any youth, 9–18 years old by January 1, 2019, may participate in either the tier I or tier II Alabama 4-H Grows Garden Project. To participate, youth will need to sign up by May 3 using 4HOnline. When signing in to 4HOnline, choose either the tier I or tier II garden project. The cost to participate in tier I is \$15 and includes three buckets, soil, plants, and a journal. The cost of tier II is \$25 and includes only plants and a journal. Registered participants must watch a mandatory webinar-style workshop hosted online by Alabama Extension at 3 p.m. April 25. Others interested but not registered may also watch the webinar to help them decide if they want to participate in the program. The webinar will be archived for later viewing.

When participants have registered and viewed the webinar, they will be contacted in early May by their county 4-H agent regarding how to pick up their plants and associated materials.

For more information, contact the _____ County Extension office at _____.

