



Purpose:

To provide supplemental funding to community gardens located in Cook County. Grant funds to be used for garden plantings, seeds, garden supplies and materials. Grant funds must be used at Cook County Farm Bureau member businesses*.

Grant:

\$350.00 grant awarded to six (6) community gardens selected in Cook County.

Grant awarded in the form of **vouchers** to be **redeemed** at participating Cook County Farm Bureau Member Greenhouses, Farm Stands and Businesses. Fund use as identified on the grant application.

*CCFB member Ag Business contact / location information will be provided with awards.

Goal:

To develop urban community awareness of agriculture through gardening, to provide additional funding to meet garden goals, and to connect gardens with member ag businesses.

Process:

Grant application date deadline is February 28, 2026, 11:59 pm; all garden applicants will be notified of awards by mid-March.

Grant Assistance/Clarification:

Contact Deb Voltz (CCFB) at 708-354-3276 or email: membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org.

Cook County Farm Bureau® Cookfresh® Urban Garden Grant Program 2026

Community Garden Name: _____

Physical address of Garden: (not address of organization):

Garden Grant Coordinator/Contact Name: (name, email, phone)

Alternate Contact Name (email and phone): _____

Organization *Mailing Address* for Grant Info:

Website/Facebook: _____

Garden Founded Date: _____ 501c Not for Profit: Yes _____ No _____

Has the Garden been previously awarded a Cookfresh grant? Yes _____ Year _____ No _____

Please provide a summary of the Community Garden:

Grant amount: \$350.00

If awarded a grant, how will the funds be used? Fund use examples: soil, seedlings, plants, garden material, tools, etc..

<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Cost (estimate)</u>
<i>Examples: shovel</i>	<i>for planting</i>	<i>\$25.00</i>
<i>tomato plants</i>	<i>for planting</i>	<i>12 @ \$3.00 each</i>

TOTAL Projected 2026 Garden Budget: _____

Does your organization have other funding sources? Yes _____ No _____ If yes, please identify, including in-kind services:

How will the garden enhance the community and benefit area citizens?

Will your organization offer any educational activities related to the garden, to the community? If yes, please list.

How will the effectiveness of the garden be measured and evaluated? (i.e.: number of participants, harvest, sales, activities, etc.)

Does your garden have a gardener guidelines list? (if yes, please attach) Yes ____ No ____

Does your group hold liability insurance for the garden and volunteers involved? Yes ____ No ____

Does your garden have access to a regular, consistent source of water for plants? Yes ____ No ____

Are you willing to display a Cook County Farm Bureau "support" sign and provide a tour of the garden if you receive a grant for your garden? Yes ____ No ____

If awarded a grant are you willing to complete a post-season garden report? Yes ____ No ____

Grant Preparer: print _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Grant Coordinator Email: _____ Cell: _____

Deadline: February 28, 2026

(Grant application date must be verified by post mark date, fax transmittal or email delivery time for consideration.)

Return by mail, email, or fax to:

Cook County Farm Bureau®

6438 Joliet Road Ste 101

Countryside, IL 60525

Attn: Debbie-Cookfresh Garden Grant

708-354-3276 Fax: 708-579-6056

E-Mail: membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org

Community Garden Grant - PHOTO RELEASE 2026

Community Garden Name: _____

AUTHORIZATION & PHOTO RELEASE I/We understand that by participation in this program, activity, seminar, workshop, tour, event, etc. the name, photograph/video or other image, quotes attributed to the participant(s) listed below, and other information pertaining to the participant may be used by the Cook County Farm Bureau® for publicity purposes. These publicity purposes may be in the form of brochures, websites, videos, social media, news releases or other forms of media. We hereby authorize the Cook County Farm Bureau® to use the name, publish the photograph or other likeness, and use quotes attributed to the participant and other information pertaining to the participant. We, for ourselves, our heirs, assigns, and legal representatives, expressly release and discharge the Cook County Farm Bureau, all of its affiliated organizations, its directors, officers, employees, and agents from any and all claims, known or unknown, arising out of or in any way connected with the uses described above.

Garden Coordinator(s):

Signature: _____ Print _____ Date _____

Signature: _____ Print _____ Date _____

***For use if awarded a 2026 CCFB Garden Grant*