

October 31, 2007 VCGN Member Survey - Results for Question 10

10. If you could wave a magic wand and make one wish for Vermont's community and school gardens, what would your wish be?

Comment Text	Response Date / Time
1. Maybe share seeds, cultivars that work, etc.?	Fri, 11/2/07 9:36 AM
2. Increased participation!	Fri, 11/2/07 9:27 AM
3. My one wish is that every school has a garden.	Fri, 11/2/07 6:07 AM
4. More school, town, and community landscaping with edible plants and fruit/nut producing trees.	Fri, 11/2/07 5:54 AM
5. I wish that the communities surrounding VT's gardens would feel invested in making these gardens an integral part of the lives of everyone around, and view the gardens as not only a place to secure healthy, local food, but a place to find healing, learning and tolerance as well.	Thu, 11/1/07 11:02 PM
6. More volunteers to help us. :-)	Thu, 11/1/07 8:42 PM
7. I wish that are garden plots were in use at all times by curious people.	Thu, 11/1/07 7:30 PM
8. Educate more families to plant, grow and prepare food.	Thu, 11/1/07 7:12 PM
9. They would always be adequately funded.	Thu, 11/1/07 6:57 PM
10. Broader participation of people from all walks of life!	Thu, 11/1/07 6:51 PM
11. perfect weather	Thu, 11/1/07 6:35 PM
12. Well funded and well promoted	Thu, 11/1/07 5:24 PM
13. That there could be more of them! If we could find all the unused spaces in Burlington and create gardens that bring neighbors together and can help build community!	Thu, 11/1/07 3:49 PM
14. more funding	Thu, 11/1/07 3:13 PM
15. Everyone in the state has access to participation in community and school gardens!	Thu, 11/1/07 2:15 PM
16. More funding for programs so more projects could occur.	Thu, 11/1/07 1:53 PM
17. There would be a farmer and farmland connected to each school, farmer on staff at the school to grow food and work with teachers to use the garden educationally.	Thu, 11/1/07 1:44 PM
18. more grants, and funding...moneys always short	Thu, 11/1/07 1:42 PM
19. Integrate and coordinate our efforts and provide resources, such as sustaining and promoting community gardens and providing service learning opportunities for community. Also, how to effectively build true community among garden plot-holders.	Thu, 11/1/07 1:32 PM
20. There would be one for every school!	Thu, 11/1/07 1:07 PM
21. More money, more volunteers	Thu, 11/1/07 12:57 PM
22. Funding for more gardens	Thu, 11/1/07 12:53 PM

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| 23. | more gardens, more people involved | Thu, 11/1/07 12:52 PM |
| 24. | More coordination with garden clubs throughout the state. | Thu, 11/1/07 12:50 PM |
| 25. | For every child in Vermont to have the chance to plant a seed and harvest a vegetable to eat themselves. | Thu, 11/1/07 12:49 PM |
| 26. | I work for a non-profit hospital but have a small farm, am a 4H leader for our Growing Connections garden and am a master gardener. Our 4H garden started as an after school project for at risk kids but morphed into a community garden. | Thu, 11/1/07 12:47 PM |
| 27. | I'd wish for these groups to have unlimited funding and interest from potential participants and volunteers. | Thu, 11/1/07 11:34 AM |
| 28. | I wish there would be more information about my part of the state, the central part. There are many amazing initiatives going on around here that are not covered in this newsletter. My school won a fairly substantial Farm to School grant. Isn't that part of community gardening? | Thu, 11/1/07 11:09 AM |
| 29. | Money for students to visit other school gardens - sister garden program within schools across the state - organization to help schools with major composting of all school food waste, 25+ pounds a day! | Thu, 11/1/07 10:56 AM |
| 30. | Regular compost for the community gardens to keep the soil healthy | Thu, 11/1/07 10:33 AM |
| 31. | A backyard garden workshare, where neighborhood gardeners would be organized for one day in spring and one in fall to help each other out with planting and clean-up. | Thu, 11/1/07 10:28 AM |
| 32. | More of them! | Thu, 11/1/07 10:24 AM |
| 33. | A large vegetable cooperative in Franklin County. I do not have time to tend to a garden, nor the money to pay the high cost of some of the local produce stands, but I would pay a small stipend and work a couple hours a week tending a cooperative garden in order to partake in fresh produce weekly as it comes into season. | Thu, 11/1/07 10:24 AM |
| 34. | Integrate the gardens into the curriculum for several courses. | Thu, 11/1/07 10:11 AM |
| 35. | That more people could realize all the benefits achieved from both gardens and that more people of all ages could be involved in some way large or small so all the benefits could be achieved. | Thu, 11/1/07 9:51 AM |
| 36. | lots of donated lands available for community gardens. . . and more people willing to step up to the plate to help organize them!!! | Thu, 11/1/07 9:41 AM |
| 37. | that you would come to senior housing in Winooski and help us get gardens off the ground | Thu, 11/1/07 9:41 AM |
| 38. | Expanded and guaranteed presence into the future. | Thu, 11/1/07 9:39 AM |
| 39. | I wish school gardens were more thoroughly integrated into the curriculum and the food service programs. | Thu, 11/1/07 9:27 AM |
| 40. | More of them! More people growing their own food. With active participants who garden organically and emphasize soil health and sustainable organic bug and pest controls! | Thu, 11/1/07 9:12 AM |
| 41. | A longer season! | Thu, 11/1/07 9:09 AM |

42. I would like to have children learn more about nutrition, the importance of healthy eating and the ways in which eating well affects one's health. Children need more information about mass production of food and the drawbacks of the same. And most importantly, I would like to see children learn how to grow their food and to support local markets. Thu, 11/1/07 9:09 AM
43. That communities would recognize the full benefits of having these gardens in their neighborhoods, and find ways to support them not just with funds and materials, but with volunteer involvement too. Make them true centers of the community, as much as a church or school. Thu, 11/1/07 9:06 AM
44. Selfishly, I'd like a paid position with FBG. More altruistically, I'd like FBG to have enough sustainable money sources to have paid staff to visit schools/home schools as part of a regular program. Thu, 11/1/07 9:04 AM
45. A sustainable source of revenue Thu, 11/1/07 9:02 AM
46. Broader involvement -- the more kids and community members who try gardening, the stronger our community will be. Thu, 11/1/07 9:01 AM
47. have VCGN receive several multi-year grants so that the organization can do some serious planning and become an incredible model for other states! Thu, 11/1/07 9:00 AM
48. There would be a way to network with other school/community gardeners to ask pertinent questions and discover what worked/works for them. Thu, 11/1/07 9:00 AM
49. Just keep the energy/financial support up so the effort and wonderful ideas keep coming and keep being implemented. The newsletter is an extremely important communication tool for this...thankyou!!! Thu, 11/1/07 9:00 AM
50. That all communities and schools would have gardens that would contribute to helping everyone in need to stop hunger and educate them on how to eat healthy good food and how to preserve it. Thu, 11/1/07 5:17 AM
51. Year round gardening. Wed, 10/31/07 8:39 PM
52. To keep supporting the schools, it does help a lot. Wed, 10/31/07 8:33 PM
53. more volunteer help for the school garden especially getting the soil ready, mulching, and clean up - people tend to be interested in the beginning of the garden process and by August I feel like the Little Red Hen Wed, 10/31/07 6:07 PM
54. If I really had a magic wand, I would wish for every school in Vermont (and beyond!) to have a garden, with a paid garden coordinator who would coordinate garden maintenance and education around gardening, nutrition, cooking, etc. and assure that all children/classes in the school have the opportunity to be involved. Wed, 10/31/07 5:43 PM
55. A museum! - Use gardens for inter-generational interactions! Wed, 10/31/07 1:10 PM
56. My wish would be for ALL the schools in Vermont to have equal access to garden programs and local foods and relationships with local growers! Wed, 10/31/07 1:10 PM
57. Be more of them (more= Gardens at each school or "body" like a school, such as centers, large daycares/ preschools and a like; would grow most of their own food; free food grown and given out to folks that can not Wed, 10/31/07 11:44 AM

make it to food banks/ shelf.

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| 58. More funding!!! | Wed, 10/31/07 11:21 AM |
| 59. Longer growing period | Wed, 10/31/07 10:34 AM |
| 60. more community garden events to help you get to know your garden neighbors. intro to gardening workshop! | Wed, 10/31/07 10:19 AM |
| 61. I've only just joined and don't yet have my wish.. | Wed, 10/31/07 10:13 AM |
| 62. abundance of grant funding! and more interaction with farmer's in the area (i.e. in Burlington the Intervale farmers) | Wed, 10/31/07 9:45 AM |
| 63. The creation of an active, easy-to-use learning network about when, how and why to plant various things! Could be emails, workshops, talks... | Wed, 10/31/07 9:40 AM |
| 64. Aside from a longer growing season, we need more land. | Wed, 10/31/07 9:38 AM |
| 65. Have a flower and vegetable garden in every school and in every community | Wed, 10/31/07 9:15 AM |
| 66. That every school in the state would have an active garden and use the food in their school lunch/snack programs and that communities have a community garden space so that those who wish to participate in gardening but have little knowledge/experience or space to have a back yard garden can participate. | Wed, 10/31/07 8:57 AM |
| 67. For the gardening programs to have all the funding that they need to introduce the concept of creating one's own food in a way that is healthy for the consumer, for the land, and the community. | Wed, 10/31/07 8:39 AM |
| 68. more access to funding, technical assistance, etc | Wed, 10/31/07 8:25 AM |
| 69. More time to be able to share successes and failures of school and community gardens so we can all learn from one another and not all have to reinvent the wheel. More support from governmental agencies to keep this work going without some much time being spent on fund raising | Wed, 10/31/07 8:22 AM |
| 70. That there could be an endowment that would fund their use and integration into school curriculum. | Wed, 10/31/07 8:18 AM |
| 71. It would be great to have more gardens and more funding for them. Keep up the great work! | Wed, 10/31/07 8:04 AM |
| 72. Funding and manpower for a community garden in every school and community. | Wed, 10/31/07 8:01 AM |
| 73. Never ends | Wed, 10/31/07 7:55 AM |

Survey note: the majority of responses to question 10 are unedited; a few of the longer responses were edited to key points