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## **Hunger Free North Dakota Garden Project** **Start a Community Garden in 7 Easy Steps**

1. Meet with your park district director and find some community property that could be used for a community garden.
2. Partner with your county extension service for assistance with:
  - a. Soil testing and site selection.
  - b. Information and supplies to kill weeds or grass before first tilling.
  - c. Tilling assistance (The park district may offer this service for free.)
3. Find water:
  - a. Contact the city or the county entity that owns the closest access to water
  - b. Find out how much they would charge for water.
  - c. Determine how the water can be transported or piped to the garden.
4. Release the information to the local media and call a meeting for anyone interested in being a part of a community garden. Hang posters in all senior centers, schools, grocery stores, etc.:
  - a. Determine rules of the garden using this helpful website:  
<https://www.communitygarden.org/>
  - b. Decide how to accept and deposit money.
  - c. Designate contact people and/or elect a president.
5. Appear before the Park Board, City Commission and/or County Commission:
  - a. Ask for permission to proceed.
  - b. Provide written information about how a community garden works and the expectations you have for their help.
  - c. Ask for a minimum of three years and be sure to keep the board informed of any changes and/or unexpected issues that may arise.
6. Be sure and tell everyone about the Hunger Free ND Garden Project and how it will benefit the local food pantry.
7. Involve gardeners, horticulture groups, Boy Scout, Girl Scout, seniors, etc. You don't have to be a gardener – but you can become one.