

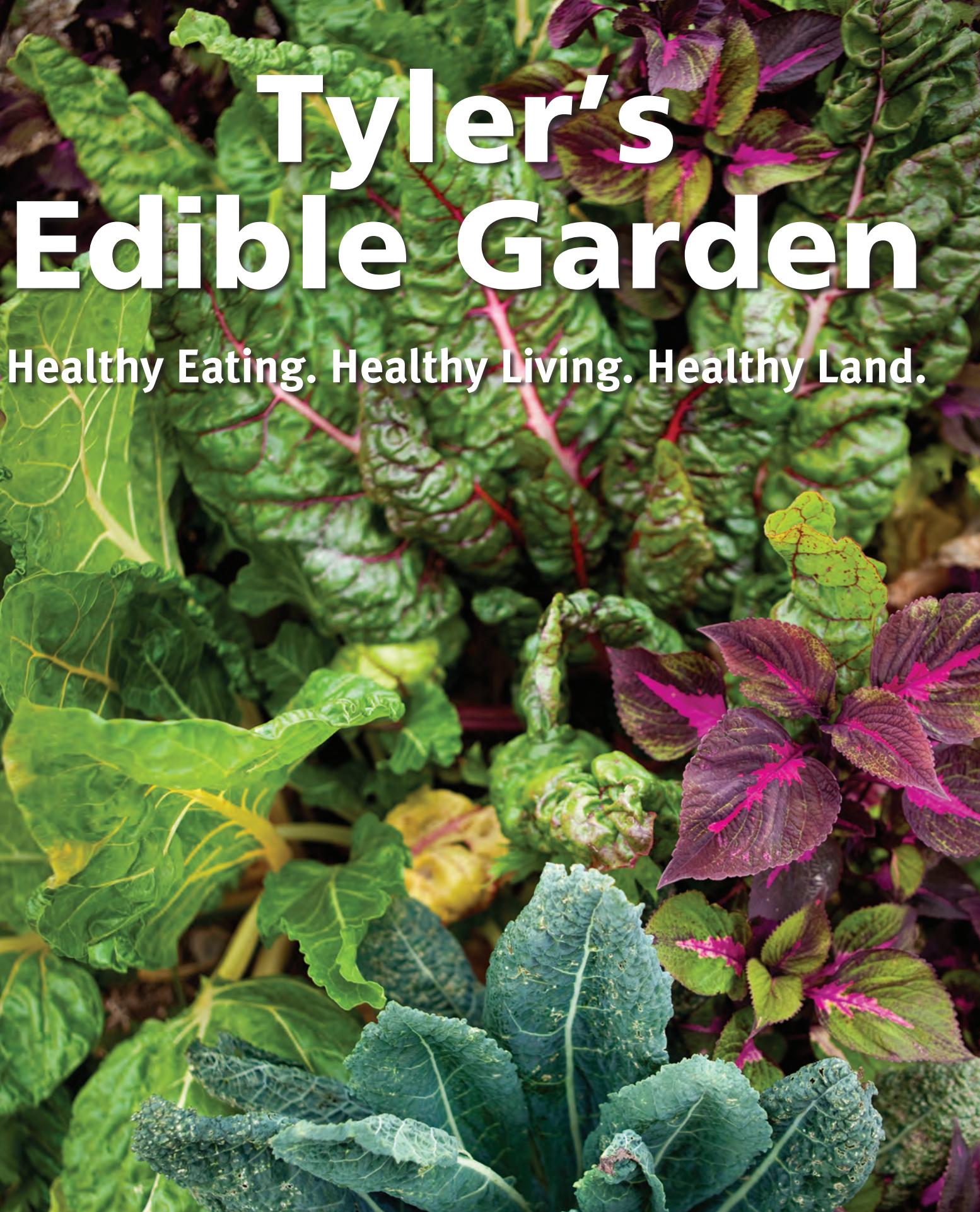
Why Give To Tyler's Edible Garden?

In this age of encroaching development and disconnect from nature, now is the time to rebuild our relationship with food and the land.

Your gift creates a powerful way to change behavior through hands-on gardening. You affirm life-giving relationships between people and nature, food and health, gardening and renewal. Your support offers young people a new way to discover their place in the world and adults an opportunity to reconnect to gardens and nature.

Tyler's Edible Garden is just the place to learn how to eat and live in healthier ways. This teaching space and engaging garden will inspire our community to shape a healthier world for all.

Garden fundraising goal:
\$1.2 million.



Join us with your gift today.

Call to learn more about this exciting project.

Thank you!

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This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through grant award number MA-10-14-0328-14.

TYLER ARBORETUM MISSION: To preserve, enhance, and share our heritage, collections, and landscapes, to create and inspire stewards of the natural world.

Tyler Arboretum

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Tyler Arboretum

Healthy Eating. Healthy Living. Healthy Land.

The Edible Garden changes the way we eat and live with Seed to Table learning

The Edible Garden uses hands-on gardening to connect visitors to the natural world. Through sowing, growing, harvesting, and working the soil we demonstrate how to nurture edibles, herbs, and flowers in organic and sustainable ways. Visitors discover how native plants, wildlife, and pollinators are partners in healthy gardens. Through programs like Soil Explorers, Little Chefs, and Family Food Nights, we offer ways for all ages to learn together, about healthy eating, healthy living, and cultivating healthy land.

Your gift helps build Tyler's Edible Garden and provides our 65,000 visitors with useful ideas about how to live in partnership with nature. Growing fresh healthy food nourishes our bodies, builds community, and sustains the environment.



We have lost connections with our food and the land

In today's fast-paced, high tech world, we too often find ourselves reaching for fast food solutions and spending our days inside. We have lost connections with our food and how it's grown, with nature's seasonal rhythms, and with the land which sustains us.

Current data shows that children 8 – 18 spend an average of 7 hours a day in front of their screens. At the same time, adults who grew up playing outside are less likely to spend time outdoors given family and work commitments. Our food choices and sedentary habits have increased obesity, diminished our health and fitness, and created a disconnect from the natural world. Among our youngest, our choices have caused declines in creative problem solving, critical thinking, and the ability to work and play in groups. ^(1,2)

Locally, Delaware County has the highest rate of obesity in Southeastern Pennsylvania and a high incidence of chronic diseases related to unhealthy living. ⁽³⁾

1) Rideout, V. J., Foehr, U. G., & Roberts, D. F. (2010). Generation M2: Media in the Lives of 8- to 18-Year-Olds. Menlo Park, CA: Kaiser Family Foundation, 2.

2) Page, A. S., Cooper, A. R., Griew, P., & Jago, R. (2010). Children's screen viewing is related to psychological difficulties irrespective of physical activity. *Pediatrics*, 126(5), 1011-1017. 1.

3) Main Line Health Community Needs Assessment, Riddle Hospital.

Tyler Arboretum – leading experiential science education

Tyler's strong education team delivers hands-on science to over 9,000 children each year through school field trips, outreach programs, summer camps, scouting, and over 250 family programs. With a STEM based curriculum Tyler has met the Pennsylvania State science education requirements for the last 15 years.

Tyler programs invite children, teens, and adults to discover and explore. The Edible Garden and Garden Education Building support new programs to reach 2,660 more children (+30%) annually, a significant step toward our goal to connect 15,000 children with nature every year by 2021.

The Children's Vegetable garden lets our youngest experience the joy of planting and growing, watering and weeding, and finally pulling that perfect crisp radish right out of the ground. For school groups, the garden offers discovery—how seeds grow, what herbs smell like, and how tomatoes taste just off the vine—converting vegetable skeptics to vegetable lovers.



Building community partnerships

Delaware County Libraries: Tyler is taking healthy food gardening on the road with vegetable demonstration gardens at five Delaware County libraries, extending our message of healthy living and healthy eating to our shared community.

Roughwood Seed Collection: The Edible Garden features heirloom fruits and vegetables grown from Roughwood seeds. These crops connect food with the stories of our rich regional heritage including the Lenni Lenape, African American, and Quaker communities, and many others.

Local Food Banks: Surplus produce supports the Media and Chester food banks.

Hands-on gardening changes behavior

"Scientific studies show that gardening increases vegetable consumption in children and that garden-based education can have a role in improving public health. The experiential nature of garden learning makes connections between science, community, and work. Intergenerational learning experiences while working with the land can be powerful in promoting environmental values."



Connecting to Our Farming Roots

Sustainable, organic gardening connects us to food at its source



Build the Teaching Garden

This living classroom on 1.25 acres showcases horticulture for the home gardener, with environmentally friendly practices to sustain, nurture, and restore the land. A new Garden Education building extends garden teaching year-round.

The site's historic use as a tenant garden, with the ruin of an early 19th century springhouse, recalls our farming roots. In the spirit of Quaker ingenuity that guided Tyler's agricultural past, we capture and re-charge storm water and compost garden and yard wastes.

Situated in Tyler's historic core, the Edible Garden provides a new gateway to experience Tyler's riches with easy access to existing gardens and three vibrant ecosystems – the meadows, the pond and stream, and the woodlands.

Home Idea Garden

A richly planted garden showcases perennials, pollinators, and native plants to inspire home gardeners.

Nature Discovery Garden

Whimsical natural structures, set amidst trees and native plantings, invite children to explore wild spaces beyond the gardens.

19th Century Ruin Garden

The ruins of an early 19th century domestic springhouse create a garden to tell the story of Tyler's farming past.

Vegetable and Fruit Gardens

Digging in the soil is the best way to learn how to grow tasty fruits and vegetables. Planted from heirloom seeds, garden crops create cultural connections to our diverse regional community.

Children's Vegetable Garden

Children discover the potato before it becomes a chip; and the pumpkin in its patch; the miracle of seeds; and the circle of life from sprouts to decay.

Rain Garden

This lush garden purifies rainwater captured from the gardens, the building roof, and terraces to recharge our groundwater.

Teaching in the Garden

Indoor classroom space creates an all-weather, all-season teaching garden

Support the Garden Education Building

This multipurpose building opens to the outside and extends garden teaching year-round. Designed to accommodate a class of 50, this flexible space dramatically increases our capacity to teach through experience.

Through school field trips, summer camp, scouting, family, adult and intergenerational classes, workshops, and social gatherings, we teach visitors creative ways to:

- Grow healthy fruits and vegetables using sustainable and organic methods
- Connect to nature through gardens and wildlife
- Garden in small spaces with vertical gardens, green roofs, and containers
- Use sustainable energy and recycling strategies
- Learn from and use our farming history

Classroom

The large, light-filled classroom opens in all directions to the gardens. In the kitchen, we transform garden produce in delicious, fresh ways to try at home. 21st century classroom technology supports a wide range of teaching methods.

Volunteer & Educator Office

Staff and volunteers share a workspace to create meaningful and productive learning experiences.

North Terrace and Outdoor Kitchen

At the center of garden activity, this generous terrace provides outdoor gathering space for classes, cooking demonstrations, meals al fresco, and social gatherings.

Sustaining the Land



Sustainable garden and building systems demonstrate how to conserve at home

Create Sustainable Garden and Building Systems

Living lightly on the land means living in ways that meet our needs without damaging the environment. This garden and building show how to recycle, reuse, and restore vital resources so we leave a healthier world for future generations.



Storm Water Recharge to Groundwater

Clean, pure water is one of our most precious resources. The Rain Garden purifies stormwater captured from the site, terraces, and building roof with plantings and soil, to recharge water to our groundwater supply. By controlling stormwater flow, the rain garden prevents flooding and erosion of our local streams, and sustains groundwater-fed streams through dry seasons.

Sustainable Insulation

Using recycled denim and soy-based foam for insulation, the Garden Education Building sustainably reduces energy needs.