

Do you need to tell local people what you are doing?

Yes, please tell anyone who is visibly affected by the planting—set up a meeting alongside the planting area, do a bit of door knocking to let them know what's happening and why. Let your local councillor know too. We can supply the questions you need to ask and this will help later on to gauge if the scheme has grown in popularity.

Do I have to belong to a group to do it?

No, you can do it by yourself.

Can I grow anything I want?

Yes, as long as it's edible and doesn't cause a nuisance or affect visibility !

Can I put a fence up?

We would need to have a chat about this to check out visibility and access issues.



Do I have to let people take my food?

We would like the food grown to be made available to everyone even if they aren't members of your scheme, what we don't want is the land to become allotments.

Do I need insurance to do this?

Yes, you will need insurance cover but if you are affiliated to a local group you could get insurance cover through the group. That way it could be cheaper—contact us for a chat about this.

What about Health and Safety?

Always good to get advice. Try contacting the Keep Wales Tidy officer or The Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens they will probably help with some training.

Useful Contacts

Keep Wales Tidy officer

Tom Ward-Jackson
thomas.ward-jackson@keepwalestidy.org

The Federation of City Farms & Community
Gardens

emma@farmgarden.org.uk

Growing the Future
gtf@gardenofwales.org.uk

Council's estate team
estates@monmouthshire.gov.uk



Monmouthshire County Council's Community Food Growing Policy





Do you want to grow vegetables, herbs or fruit but don't have space at home? Or are you still waiting for an allotment space?

Would you like to join others in Monmouthshire to use small bits of Council owned land to start growing?

Monmouthshire County Council have a policy that allows the use of small bits of council owned land to grow food on. We are doing this to support and promote the Incredible Edible movement, where groups of people get together to grow produce on easily accessible land - then the interesting bit is, the produce can be taken away freely by anyone not just those who have worked to make the produce grow.

We are the first Council in Wales to have such a policy and we want you to benefit from this. If you know a small bit of land that you wish to grow vegetables, soft fruit or herbs on let us know. If it is owned by MCC and doesn't have anything affecting its use as a growing space then we can issue a license to you.

This is already happening in Abergavenny, Caldicot, Chepstow and Monmouth where groups have got together to grow food that other people can take — becoming Incredible Edibles. There are hundreds of groups doing this throughout the world—if you want to join in just contact on us 01633 64 4844 or email alisonhoward@monmouthshire.gov.uk You will find answers to some of the questions you might be thinking overleaf.



What do you need to know?

How do I find out if it's council owned land?

Contact the council's estate team on 01633 644844 or Email: estates@monmouthshire.gov.uk.

Can I start growing on any unused land?

We need to see the piece of land you are interested in— so we'll pay a visit to find out where it is and if there are any planning constraints on the land.

What do I do if it's not Council land?

Find out who the land owner is, you could try asking local people first, failing that try Land Registry on 0300 0060 4111 or online www.landregistry.gov.uk