Developing a Plan for Building Your Collective Garden Leadership

This will help you make a plan to increase buy-in, deepen involvement, connect to more/diverse/better info and ideas, increase confidence among your gardeners, reduce leadership burn-out, and help to recruit new leadership.

Envision Your Ideal Leadership Team

- How many leaders do you want on your team?

- What kinds of skills will they have?

- Will your leadership team reflect the community which your garden serves or is located within?

- How will your leadership team support each other and you?

- How will your leaders be committed to the goals of your group?

Set Goals

- Think about your group, and compare it to your ideal leadership team. What are its strengths, and how do they fit in with your vision? What are its difficulties?

- Determine the areas for which your group can use leadership development.

- Choose specific goals to address those areas and put them into a plan (on 2nd page).
Here’s a few ideas for leadership building activities to help you implement your plan:

- Develop systems for record-keeping and sharing.
- Improve systems for communication among leadership team members.
- Develop an in-person garden orientation and accompanying orientation manual.
- Provide training in specific areas of garden management.
- Implement a structure for collaborative leadership - i.e. divide responsibilities.

*Resource adapted from The Community Tool Box, University of Kansas*