

Marion Microfarm Newsletter

Spring 2025

A collaborative, community effort to bring entrepreneurship, economic development, and interest in agriculture to Marion!

Located at Harding High School
1500 Harding Highway E.
Marion, Ohio

Newsletter published by Ohio State Marion

Class Visits and Growing Teachers Throughout the Seasons

In the late winter and early spring days efforts have continued to increase awareness throughout Marion City Schools. Grace Hand, microfarm coordinator, has had the opportunity to continue visiting and providing support to the thirteen teachers across the district that are growing food in their classrooms through the ***Growing Teachers Throughout the Seasons*** program.

As the sun begins to shine and temperatures start to rise, the teachers and their students have had a full planting schedule. Most of the teachers are currently growing hydroponic tomatoes and multiple types of greens and herbs. Some classes are even experimenting with growing strawberries, mint, onions, carrots, and more!

Planting early in the spring will allow the plants just enough time to grow and be harvested before the school year ends in May. By the time school is over, the teachers and classes will have cleaned out their outdoor garden beds so that they are ready for planting as soon as they return in late August.

Special Classroom Programs

This spring, a couple classes from each of the Marion City elementary schools are scheduled to attend a special program. A majority of them will learn how to make their own ice cream and butter. One special class at Taft Elementary will also be hatching their own chicks right in their classroom!



Field trips

In late April we'll be welcoming a select number of elementary classes to the Harding Microfarm for spring field trips! The students will have the opportunity to tour the farm, taste test fresh produce, plant seeds at the farm, and sow a small pot of lettuce to take home and grow. They'll also check out the prairie and blooming trees and shrubs that can be found behind the farm.



Ohio State Marion Sustainability Gallery

Stop by Ohio State Marion's Kuhn Art Gallery in Morrill Hall to see the new Sustainability! You can find the Marion Microfarm Project poster displayed with information about our most recent project updates, as well as other interesting community and campus projects.

New Plant Library

We're excited to welcome a new addition to the Harding High School Microfarm within the next couple months. The local Presidential Gardeners club came to us with a great vision for a community plant library with the hopes of finding the perfect home for it. The library will soon be located next to the microfarm and will provide the community with the opportunity to share extra plants and supplies with others.

Harding High School Agriculture Program

The high school ag students are gearing up for their first plant fundraiser at the beginning of May. Reach out for more info!

For more information, email Grace Hand at gcornell@mcspresidents.org

Farm Camp

at Harding High School

**Sign up by
May 23rd**

Current 2nd/3rd Graders: June 2nd from 9am-1pm

<https://tinyurl.com/ykbd3779>



Current 4th/5th Graders: June 3rd/4th from 9am-1pm

<https://tinyurl.com/2392c8s8>



Current 6th Graders: June 10th/11th from 9am-1pm

<https://tinyurl.com/y3d2uc3j>



ACTIVITIES:

Plant and harvest produce, make homemade ice cream and butter, learn about beekeeping, learn the art of homesteading, and much more!

Don't miss out on the fun! Sign up today!