Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack started the People’s Garden Grant Program with one garden at USDA Headquarters in 2009. Since then, thousands of USDA employees and partners have volunteered their time to expand the initiative to more than 2,110 People’s Gardens in all 50 states, four U.S. territories and 12 foreign countries!

USDA employees and more than 1,300 local organizations across the country provide technical assistance to those who wish to create and maintain school gardens, community gardens and small-scale agriculture projects in rural and urban areas. Visit www.usda.gov/peoplesgarden for more information on how to start your own.
As part of **EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program)**, the Seasonal High Tunnel System for Crops conservation practice helps producers extend the growing season for high-value crops in an environmentally-safe manner. The practice addresses resource concerns by improving plant and soil quality, reducing nutrient and pesticide transport, improving air quality through reduced transportation inputs, and reducing energy use by providing consumers with a local source of fresh produce. Applications are available on a continuous basis.

Grant programs administered by AMS include the **Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Program** which covers two types of grants:

- The Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) provides $13.3 million to support projects for direct farmer-to-consumer marketing projects such as Farmers Markets, Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA) programs, roadside stands and Agri-tourism.
- The Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP) offers $13.3 million in funds for projects that support intermediary supply chain activities for businesses that process, distribute, aggregate and store locally or regionally-produced food products.

**LOCAL FOOD KNOWLEDGE**

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
www.ams.usda.gov/AMSgrants

**FMPP/LFPP**

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
www.grants.gov

**SEASONAL HIGH TUNNELS — “EQIP”**

Part of USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Environmental Quality Incentives Program


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