



School Greenhouse Resource Guide

A handy guide for starting or enhancing a greenhouse project at your school!

This collection of resources will help you design, build, and maintain a greenhouse for your school, even if you're just starting out or looking to take your project to the next level.

Know of a great resource we're missing?

Share it with the N:OW for Net-Zero team: nowfornetzero@fesplanet.org

Key Concepts for School Greenhouses

Types of Greenhouses

Plant Selection & Care

Climate Control

Project Planning

Building Permits & Regulations

Maintenance and Upkeep

Teaching & Reading Resources

Horticulture Educator Association Teaching Resources

A resource library by Green Careers Canada for teachers and industry.

[View Resource](#)

Greenhouse Manual for Educators

A classroom resource list and K-8 educational materials, including lesson plans and downloadable curriculum guides for every step of a greenhouse project. Please note this resource is U.S.-based.

[View manual](#)

[View the program](#)

[Visit website](#)

[View resource centre](#)

Explore Resources

Watch the video

[Visit their website](#)

Have your students thrived in a school greenhouse? Share your story to inspire educators and communities across the country!



Greenhouse Builders and Suppliers

[Arctic Acres](#) - Canada-wide - Geodesic greenhouses, 4-season, certified installers

[ColdAcre](#) - Northern communities - First Nation-owned hydroponic shipping container growing systems, education

[Greenhouse in the Snow](#) - BC-based (available Canada-wide) - Low-grade geothermal 4-season greenhouse kits

[Planta Greenhouses](#) - Canada-wide - Hoop design kits, polycarbonate

[OMNI Structures](#) - ON-based (available Canada-wide) - Hoop design kits, polycarbonate

[Growcer](#) - Canada-wide - Hydroponic shipping container growing system, onsite training

[GrowHoops](#) - AB-based (available Canada-wide) - Hoop design kits, 6 mil poly, irrigation options included

[Harnois Industries](#) - QC-based (available Canada-wide) - Engineered greenhouses, installation, consulting. Supplied the Eel River Bar [First Nation's greenhouse](#) in NB

[Yukon Greenhouse](#) - Northern greenhouse design, inspired the design for [Sagkeeng's Greenhouse project](#)!

[CGS Structures](#) - ON-based - Commercial greenhouses and accessories (ventilation, heating, lighting, etc)

[Green Iglu](#) - AB-based (available Canada-wide) - Registered charity offering sustainable greenhouse training, educational materials, community training

[Enactus](#) - University student group that has worked on greenhouse projects with several Indigenous communities, helps with grant writing and project management

[Tea Creek](#) - Northwestern BC-based - Indigenous-led, Land-based food sovereignty and trades training initiative, free in-person courses

Need Funding?

If you haven't already, be sure to check out our N:OW for Net-Zero Grant [here](#) and our additional funding opportunities [here](#)!

Resource Name	Description	Link
Canada Post Community Foundation Grant	Offers project grants to Canadian schools that make a difference in the lives of children and youth.	Learn More
EcoSchools Funding Opportunities	Available to schools across Canada to support environmental and/or school-based projects.	Learn more
Little Green Thumbs Grant List	Funding opportunities for garden-based education and non-profits.	Learn More
WWF Go Wild Grants	Helps schools protect and restore habitats on school and campus grounds.	Learn More
Samsung Solve for Tomorrow Contest	A global initiative inspiring elementary and high school students to apply STEM-based learning toward real-world challenges that impact their communities.	Learn more
Farm to Cafeteria Canada Grants	Supports healthy, sustainable outdoor food programs in schools.	Visit Website

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[**https://nowfornetzero.org/solution-stories/**](https://nowfornetzero.org/solution-stories/)



Tips for Summer Maintenance

Programs and Support for Managing Gardens and Greenhouses During the Summer

1. **Farm to Cafeteria Canada: School Garden Programs**

Many *Farm to Cafeteria Canada* programs include guidance for sustainable garden management, with options for involving local community members during the summer months.

[Learn More](#)

2. **Green Thumbs Growing Kids**

Based in Toronto, this program provides support for school and community gardens, often engaging volunteers or seasonal staff to maintain gardens over the summer.

[Explore Program](#)

3. **Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Partnerships**

Schools can partner with local CSA programs or urban agriculture organizations to co-manage gardens, with produce shared between the school and the community.

[Search Local CSAs](#)

4. **Local Master Gardener Associations**

Master Gardener programs across Canada often have volunteers willing to care for school gardens as part of their community service initiatives. Simply search “master gardener + your province/town” to find support near you!

5. **Volunteer Coordination via School Boards**

Some school boards have volunteer networks or summer school programs where students or staff manage gardens and greenhouses during the summer.



General Tips for Maintenance

Summer Greenhouse Committee

Form a group of parents, staff, or community members before summer begins to rotate greenhouse duties.

Partner with Local Organizations

Collaborate with community groups or local farms for shared care.

Student Engagement

Involve students through summer camps or after-school programs focused on gardening.

Automated Systems

Install automated irrigation systems to reduce maintenance needs during summer breaks.

Customized Local Solutions

Some municipalities or school boards may have unique programs tailored to their region. It's worth checking with local conservation authorities, parks departments, or community centers for additional support!

Greenhouses grow more than plants - they cultivate knowledge, teamwork, and a commitment to a sustainable future.