



# MAINE SCHOOL GARDEN NETWORK *Timeline*

## 2002 - 2004

- MSGN was created in 2002 through the dedicated volunteer efforts of dietitian Anne Johnson, MOFGA Education Coordinator, with UMO professor, Mary Bird.

## 2005

- Spring Conference held at Medomak Valley High School.

## 2008

- After the death of Anne Johnson, MSGN is revived by Jessica Rhys, formerly of Cultivating Community,

## 2009

- MOFGA acts as fiscal sponsor.
- First Maine School Garden Day held at University of Maine Orono.
- MSGN tables at the school entry gate at the Common Ground Fair.

## 2010

- MSGN launches MSGN.org
- Maine School Garden Day held at Troy Howard Middle School.
- With MSGN's urging, MOFGA starts Young Maine Tent at the Common Ground Country Fair.

## 2011

- Maine School Garden Day held at Medomak Valley High School.
- First email newsletter is sent.
- MSGN sponsors first School Garden Open House.

## 2012

- Maine School Garden Day held at Buckfield Jr/Sr High School.
- MSGN hosts day-long strategic planning session to articulate goals.
- By-laws are drafted to apply for 501(c)(3) status
- MSGN holds first Annual Meeting at Ferry Beach Ecology School.

## 2013

- Maine School Garden Day held at Troy Howard Middle School.
- A paid coordinator is hired.
- MSGN joins Facebook.

## 2014

- Maine School Garden Day held at Medomak Valley High School.
- Annual Meeting held at F.A.R.M.S in Damariscotta.
- Maine School Garden Network proudly became a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.
- MSGN becomes a member of Maine Association of Nonprofits

## 2015

- Maine School Garden Day held at Sanford Regional Technical Center.
- Annual Meeting held at St. Mary's Nutrition Center, Lewiston.
- MSGN hosts Regional Gatherings around the state.
- First School Garden Grown stickers displayed at Common Ground Country Fair.

## 2016

- Maine School Garden Day held at Albert Hall School.
- MSGN kicks off Garden Coach Pilot project thanks to funding from the Sewall Foundation.
- MSGN features its first School Garden of the Month.

## 2017

- Maine School Garden Day held at Falmouth High School.
- Annual Meeting held at Messalonskee High School in Oakland.

## 2018

- Maine School Garden Day held at Maine Academy of Natural Science.
- Annual Meeting held at Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens.
- School Garden Success Tour held.
- MSGN submits final report for the School Garden Coach pilot. MSGN publishes *School Garden Coach Manual*.

## 2019

- Maine School Garden Day at Trenton Elementary School.
- Annual Meeting held at Maine's Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry in Augusta.
- First MSGN Network Survey.
- MSGN conducts self study.

## 2020

- Due to Covid 19, MSGN publishes special editions of the newsletters to help school gardens cope with pandemic.
- Annual Meeting is held via Zoom.

## 2021

- MSGN holds a series of webinars on Zoom to replace Maine School Garden Day due to Covid 19..
- Annual Meeting held via Zoom.
- MSGN creates YouTube Channel.

## 2022

- Maine School Garden Day held at Connors Elementary School.
- Annual Meeting held at Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens.
- School Garden Summer Tours program begins with 3 schools.
- New website is designed with *Financing, Teaching and Managing Your School Garden* Resource pages.
- Newsletter begins having monthly themes and features .

## 2023

- MSGN releases a 5 minute Video made at Maine School Garden Day.
- School Garden Caretakers Grant program begins thanks to funding from the Sewall Foundation.
- Maine School Garden Day held at Reeds Brook Middle School.
- Annual Meeting held at Maine Audubon's Gilsland Farm.
- MSGN conducts 2nd Network Survey of Garden Directory.
- MSGN adds *Cooking in Your School Garden* Resources to website thanks to funding from the Quimby Foundation.
- Welcome Packet of discounts and donations created for Garden Directory listings.
- School Garden Summer Tours continues with 5 schools.

## 2024

- Maine School Garden Day held at Kingfield Elementary School.
- Annual Meeting held at MOFGA.
- Educator Advisory Group formed.
- School Garden Caretakers Grants
- School Garden Summer Tours continues with 9 schools.

## 2025

- Maine School Garden Day at Messalonskee Middle/High Schools.
- Annual Meeting held at Maine Audubon's Gilsland Farm.
- School Garden Caretakers Grants
- School Garden Summer Tours held at 5 schools.
- Planning begins for *School Garden of the Month Calendar* project.

## 2026

- First *School Garden of the Month Calendar* published.
- Maine School Garden Day held at Thomaston Grammar School.
- Annual Meeting held at Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens.
- First School Garden of the Year is Mount Desert Elementary School.
- School Garden Summer Tours held at 5 schools.

## 2027

- MSGN publishes second *School Garden of the Month Calendar*.
- School Garden of the Year is Edgecomb Elementary School.
- Maine School Garden Day will be held at Westbrook Middle School.