

IMPROVE EDUCATION  
PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT  
ADDRESS INFRASTRUCTURE CHALLENGES  
ADOPT SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC STRATEGIES  
MEET HUMAN NEEDS & PRESERVE LOCAL CULTURE

FOCUS OUR  
MAUI ISLANDS  
NUI OUR FUTURE

*Own it!*

# HOME GARDENS



**43 million American households are expected to grow their own fruits, vegetables, herbs and berries this year.**

That's up 19 percent over last year, according to a survey conducted in January by the National Gardening Association. About a fifth of gardeners this year will be new to the activity, the survey says. Most -- 54 percent -- said they will garden because it saves them money on food bills. A slightly larger group said they garden because homegrown food tastes better.



In our history there was a time when most families grew their own produce. Then came a time when patriotism motivated thousands of citizens to grow 'victory' gardens both at home and in community gardens during World War II.

In recent time the self-sustainability movement has brought back the good sense of home gardening, and today 'recession' gardens spotlight the value of gardening during tough economic times.

Thanks to Hawaii's mild, year-round climate, it is a fertile place that sustains many types of crops.

New gardeners should start out slow, learn as you go, and seek advice from neighborhood growers who can be most helpful when it comes to learning about the local environment.

<http://www.garden.org>

A family that spends about \$100 on a garden will save \$860 - \$2,500 in grocery bills over the course of a year.



FOCUS MAUI NUI is a community-driven vision for the future of our islands, spearheaded by Maui Economic Development Board, Inc., a nonprofit organization dedicated to the economic well-being of Maui County. VISIT [www.focusmauinui.com](http://www.focusmauinui.com) or CALL 808.270.6801