



**Public Health**  
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**Peoria City/County  
Health Department**

# Media Release

**Date:** March 21, 2019

**To:** All Media

**From:** Peoria City/County Health Department  
2116 N. Sheridan Road  
Peoria, Illinois 61604

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***For Immediate Release***

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## **Community Gardens Workshop - Developing a Food Safety Plan**

In Peoria and across the region, the number of community gardens is growing by the week. The need for food safety awareness is essential for garden managers, gardening volunteers, or anyone with an interest in gardening. Everyone involved in the community garden food chain, from planting and harvesting, right up to the dinner table needs the skills to manage food safety.

University of Illinois Extension is sponsoring a free community garden food safety workshop on Wednesday, March 27, from 9 AM – 11 AM at Peoria City/County Health Department, 2116 N. Sheridan Rd, Peoria. Zack Grant, a local food and small farms educator from University of Illinois Extension, will lead the workshop and help current and future community gardening enthusiasts manage their gardens through practical, simple steps to avoid food safety risks. Food safety experts will be on hand to illustrate best management practices and to answer questions about managing food safety.

This is a public event and is open to all residents of Peoria County and surrounding counties. The event is free, but space is limited and registration is required.

Register online at University of Illinois Extension:

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/?RegistrationID=20145>

For more information about the workshop contact Becca Cottrell at Peoria County Sustainability and Resource Conservation, 309-679-6131.

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The Peoria City/County Health Department continues efforts to improve community health in Peoria County with the overarching goal  
***“to increase the number of people who are healthy at every stage of life.”***