

Senior Nutrition Farm

The County of Ventura's Senior Nutrition Farm is a collaborative effort among local government, nonprofits, and private businesses to provide organic, local produce to the Senior Nutrition Program. More than 350,000 healthy meals are served annually through congregate or home-delivery programs.

The Senior Nutrition Farm enables community members of all ages and abilities to collaboratively grow fresh fruits and vegetables for Ventura County's older adults and people with disabilities.

A safe and welcoming space for all

The Farm succeeds through the commitment of its volunteers, who range in age from 16 to 86. Whether at the Farm to continue a lifelong passion for growing food, to learn how to grow food for the first time, to get service hours for school or work, to fulfill court-ordered hours, or simply to give back to those in need, our volunteers form a vibrant community that showcases the excellence of Ventura County's residents.

Produce that tastes better because it is better

The coastal Oxnard plain is one of the most fertile areas in the nation, yet the Ventura County Senior Meals Program was purchasing tomatoes from Chile! To be able to provide seniors in the community fresh local produce — and to reduce the impacts on the environment and the economy resulting from purchasing produce from elsewhere — a few concerned County employees decided to establish a local vegetable garden.

In 2009, the County of Ventura Probation Agency and the Area Agency on Aging developed a unique partnership to grow fresh produce on land behind the Juvenile Justice Facility in Oxnard. As word of the project spread, local organizations — from seed and seedling suppliers to schools and universities — became interested and donated their time, expertise and resources.

In the first season, 29,000 cherry tomatoes were grown. In the second season, the land available to farm increased from a quarter acre to half an acre, allowing the addition of fruit trees and additional vegetable crops. Now spanning 2.5 acres and growing more than 50 varieties of fruits and vegetables, the Farm boasts an outdoor classroom, a 50-foot greenhouse, and a growing flock of chickens. It has sent out roughly 28,000 pounds and 185,000 servings of produce in a single year.



VENTURA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING'S

Senior Nutrition Farm



THANKS OUR SPONSORS:



Proudly feeding Ventura County's older adults & people with disabilities... one harvest at a time.



TO VOLUNTEER,
PLEASE VISIT
vcaaa.org
OR CALL
(805) 477-7300

Supported from every corner of Ventura County

The following organizations have contributed generously to the success of the Senior Nutrition Farm in recent years: FoodShare, Sasaki Sustainable Nursery, Agromin, Coast Water Solutions, Seminis, SEEAg, Ventura County General Services Agency, Ventura County Probation, Cal State University Channel Islands, Santa Barbara City College, Oaks Christian School, The Cate School, Tree Top Inc., Amgen, Bank of America, and AgroThrive. In addition to these organizations, the Farm has countless individuals to thank for their gifts of money, materials and time.