

# The TUB Farms Program

We are excited to work with you to create a fun, engaging, and inspirational program for your school! The following is a general overview of how our program works.

Getting Started

The TUB Farms program begins with a walk through evaluation of your campus. At that time, we will determine together the best place to install your mini hydroponic “farm,” or TUB Farm. We will design your TUB Farm to fit the intended space. We can install our systems virtually anywhere; whether it is a concrete courtyard or a grass field. We will provide all materials and installation services needed to install your TUB Farm.

The TUB Farm is comprised of individual systems that include grow towers and a NFT (nutrient film technique) system. We recommend installing at least 4 or more systems per Farm. A TUB Farm with 4 systems can grow up to 500 plants in approximately 400 square feet of space! This size will ensure enough production for a large monthly donation, as well as for a student run farmers’ market to help raise money to fund ongoing costs.

There are a few necessary items that must be in place before we can start. The space must have a water source and an electrical source. Your school must provide the electrician to install the appropriate wiring needed to run the TUB Farm hydroponic systems. Depending on the location of the TUB Farm, this will likely include running conduit pipe under the ground. Again, this is a determination that will be made by your electrician. We do not cover the cost for the electrician’s services.

Day-to-Day Operations

We require the school to appoint at least one individual to act as our day-to-day “farm manager.” We will train this individual on how to take care of the systems, monitor for any problems and take data. Ideally, this individual is a teacher who can then teach the students how to take care of the TUB Farm.

A TUB Farm representative is available to you to answer any questions you may have, and to come out to the school to assist as needed. At the very least, we will provide a weekly check of the system to make sure it is running properly and the plants are looking as healthy as possible.

Planting, Harvesting & Donating

Seeds and seedlings are provided with the cost of the program. Additionally, we will assist on planting and harvest days. We are also happy to transport vegetables to the designated pantry if so needed.

Cost

* Each system costs an average of $1,000 to design and install. This cost includes everything needed to start growing. With the recommended 4 systems, the initial set-up cost is approximately $4,000.
* There is a monthly upkeep cost of $125. This cost incudes: all nutrients, pH adjustments, seedlings for planting, system maintenance, pest control, coordination of planting and harvest days, and training for your staff.
* We recommend implementing a student farmers’ market to assist with cost. The students would sell excess produce from the TUB Farm at the farmers’ market. We find that this can cover the monthly cost of the TUB Farm program. We are happy to assist with running the farmers’ market.
* pH and TDS meters are needed to check the nutrient water. Often times the science classes will already have these. If your school does not have meters we will discuss the cost for purchasing these meters as we move forward with the program.

Miscellaneous

We require all students participating in our program to have a liability release form. We will also send a photo and video release opt-out form to all parents. If your school is interested in partnering with us, we will provide a detailed Agreement for your review at that time.

This is a dynamic program that is individualized to each school. Therefore, as the year progresses, we will determine together the best ways to make the program a success. We are extremely excited for the prospect of working with your school!

Thank you,

Nava Kirk

Executive Director