



# How To Handle A Wisconsin Winter

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A group of WYFC members learned all about gardening last summer from building the beds to starting the plants to weeding between the rows and finally, to eating what they grew.

“Kids don’t always understand that growing a garden is a process and that it takes sun, water, time and nurturing,” said Kirsten Wineke, WYFC center director. “I think they have a better idea now of what it takes to grow a garden.” Wineke started the garden project with the help of a grant from the Madison South Rotary Club. A portion of the grant paid for the lumber used to build two beds and for the topsoil. Youth started seeds indoors then transplanted the young plants to the beds.

“We decided as a group what we would grow—tomatoes, cucumbers, lettuce, corn and strawberries,” said Wineke. Not everything grew well but the group has some experience now with gardening so Wineke is planning to grow a larger variety of vegetables next summer. The group has learned to enjoy salads at least once a week at the center. What else did they learn from their gardening experience? “That food doesn’t just come from the store,” said Wineke.