

Step-by-step project co-management

If you have a good idea for a co-management project (such as a community, tree pit, or flower garden), these are the steps you should follow:

- 1. Get together an enthusiastic group of local residents. You can divide tasks within the group. If someone moves away or drops out, you can look for a new participant together.
- 2. Do you need tips for how to create a group? Talk with as many people as possible about your idea to make the neighbourhood greener. Ask them if they want to take part, and find out what ideas they have. The more people you can bring together, the more support your project will have.
- 3. Do you want a vegetable garden? Make sure that the site is appropriate: it should get ample sun, and you should be able to keep an eye on the plot. Make sure that the soil is not contaminated. This may be the case on former factory sites, as well as in older parts of the city where chemical companies were located. In this event you will to do a soil analysis before growing edibles.
- 4. Find out who owns the land. This is often the city council, but it could also be a housing corporation or project developer. Make clear agreements with the land owner, and set them down in an agreement. Nominate someone in the group to be the contact person for the land owner.
- 5. Make joint agreements about the management of the garden, and set up a committee or association to implement these agreements.
- 6. Look at the city district's website: you may request support (also financial) for community initiatives to make the neighbourhood greener.

Natuur&Milieuteam Zuid is happy to advise and help you with one or more of these steps.

Natuur&Milieuteam Zuid