



Local

Mission library gets taste of sustainable gardening

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The Mission Branch of the San Francisco Public Library today will open the system's first "teaching garden" on growing sustainable food in an urban setting.

The project was developed in response to Mayor Gavin Newsom's initiatives on healthy-food awareness and his promoting the possibility of growing food on unused city land, according to the library.

The garden at the Mission Branch, 300 Bartlett St., was designed and built by Janet Moyer Landscaping and includes planting beds, a "smart" drip irrigation system and flowering vines to attract pollinating insects.

In addition to teaching about sustainable urban gardening, the library hopes to use the space for hands-on science lessons for local schoolchildren, workshops, and cooking and nutrition classes.

The library also wants the garden to lend itself to partnerships such as intergenerational programs with seniors or teens working with children. The library has already established a partnership with the Eat Ur Veggies program at Mission High School, according to the library. Additional programs could focus on harvest celebrations, cooking classes and sessions on how to grow food in San Francisco's microclimates.



On a food mission: The San Francisco Public Library's first "teaching garden" opens today at the Mission Branch on Bartlett Street. (Getty Images)

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