



TIP

How to start a community garden in your strata building

A community garden is one of the most tangible ways a strata building can come alive as a community.

It turns a patch of common property into something productive, shared and genuinely meaningful. A place where neighbours meet, skills are exchanged, and fresh food is grown.

Strata communities across Australia are already doing this. In South Australia, one strata community recently received funding to help residents transform their balconies and terraces into productive garden spaces, supported by a specialist planting guide and a community planting day. In Queensland, another building incorporated vegetable gardens into a broader sustainability upgrade and found it became one of the most-used and most-loved parts of the project.

How do you start one?

The first step is gauging interest. Raise the idea at a committee meeting or send a note around to residents. You might be surprised how many people are keen.

From there, identify a suitable space on the common property. This could be a garden bed, a rooftop area, a courtyard corner or a section of lawn that isn't getting much use. Any proposal to use or modify common property needs approval from the Owners Corporation, so bring it to a general meeting with a simple plan.

It's also worth looking into funding options. The CHU Green Grant exists to support exactly this kind of initiative, and there may be other sustainability funding available through your local council or state government.

The benefits go well beyond the garden itself. Research consistently shows that gardening improves mental health and wellbeing. Community gardens create natural gathering points where neighbours get to know each other. And buildings with active, engaged residents tend to be better maintained and more pleasant to live in for everyone.

A community garden isn't just a sustainability initiative. It's an investment in the kind of community you want to live in.

Visit our website to learn more about sustainability initiatives in strata and the CHU Green Grant.