



Summary of project

In Cologne's Edible City, food is being produced for humans and animals within the urban environment. The idea behind the concept was thought up by the dietary council for Cologne and the surrounding area. Edible plants are planted in public places around the city, for consumption by humans and wildlife. The 'edible' plants also include flower strips for bees and other pollinators.



Who is involved

In the Edible City, residents can not only grow their own food, but they can also get involved with planning the areas. All of this can be done while getting to know new people through their shared common interests in gardening and food production.



Key steps

Between 2017 and 2018, with input from local people and the local authority, the Action Plan Edible City was developed. The plan set the project goals and described the ways in which the plan would be implemented. The gardens identified in the plan are communal gardens that everyone is welcome to visit and use. Community gardens are being created in every area of Cologne.

How are children involved?

Schools are welcome to use the gardens for teaching sessions and many school children visit these spaces to learn about growing and food production.

How is the project linked to food and farming?

Small-scale, participatory growing projects like this, bring people together and provide opportunities for members of the local community to learn from each other.

Positive outcomes

With the Edible City an approach of urban gardens for food production is developed and realized. Cities like Paris, New York, Havana and Chicago has also trialled similar models. In Cologne, the Edible Cities project has encouraged more people to garden at home, on allotments and even on windowsills and balconies!



More information: <http://www.essbare-stadt.koeln>

Action Plan: <http://www.essbare-stadt.koeln/aktionsplan>

