

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Rachel Waldron
Parks and Recreation Director

Re: Dunwoody Community Garden and Orchard Annual Presentation

Date: September 29, 2025

Summary

The City of Dunwoody Guide for Non-Profit Partners was adopted in 2021 to strengthen the relationship between the non-profits that utilize city-owned facilities and the City of Dunwoody. Per the guide, Partners are to prepare an annual report and presentation to City Council, orally or in writing.

The Parks and Recreation Department is proud to call Dunwoody Community Garden and Orchard a Partner. Dunwoody Community Garden and Orchard provides an opportunity for members to grow food organically year-round, educates and mentors others in the community about sustainable growing practices, and dedicates a portion of its space to growing food for charitable purposes. Their core tenets include using organic growing methods, modelling environmental stewardship, being simple and scalable, enabling access for all, and fostering a learning environment.



Founded in 2009

97 Member-leased raised beds

40+ Pantry beds

108 Active Members, waitlist of 21

DCGO Mission

- Safe (and fun) place to grow food organically
- Educate others about organic gardening
- Grow food for charitable purposes



Growing & Harvesting





Our best fruit harvest yet!



Over 2,200 Lbs donated to Malachi's !



2025 Master Gardener Talks

Jan 18 - Plant Selection

Feb 8 - Chrysanthemums

March 8 - Seeds

April 19 - Care & Feeding of

Tomatoes

May 10 - Disease and Pest Control

June 14 - Climate Change and You

July 12 - Bees

August 9 - Landscape Design

Sept 13- Renewing your
Dunwoody

Landscape

Oct 11 - Soil Building

Nov. 8 - Pruning

Wildflower impregnated paper bookmarks
inviting Dunwoody newcomers to explore the
DCGO offerings.

MLK Day of Service 2025



2025 SNAP Dragon's Garden!



2025 Plant Sale....Prettiest one yet!



#1.

Packet page:...

DCGO 2025 The Year of Construction!



The Rod Pittman Pavillion

Construction
Crew: Ann,
Richard, Bambo,
Cyndi, Carlos,
Taylor, Matt and
Howard



Dedicated May 2, 2025



In the Garden

A beautiful new backdrop for our
pollinator beds...



#1.

Packet page...

The Shade Shack!





Benches and Power!

(courtesy of the City of Dunwoody)

And Fans!!!

Thanks to: Cyndi, Russ,
Richard, Jeff, Jacob, Yenifer, Ann,
Taylor, Matt, Patrick, Lydia, Harold,
Dave, Sarah



#1.





DON'T HIND US!
WE ARE SOLARIZING UNTIL FALL
This non-chemical method helps destroy pests,
weeds, and disease by trapping in the sun's heat.
PLEASE BE CAREFUL
BLACK PLASTIC IS HOT!

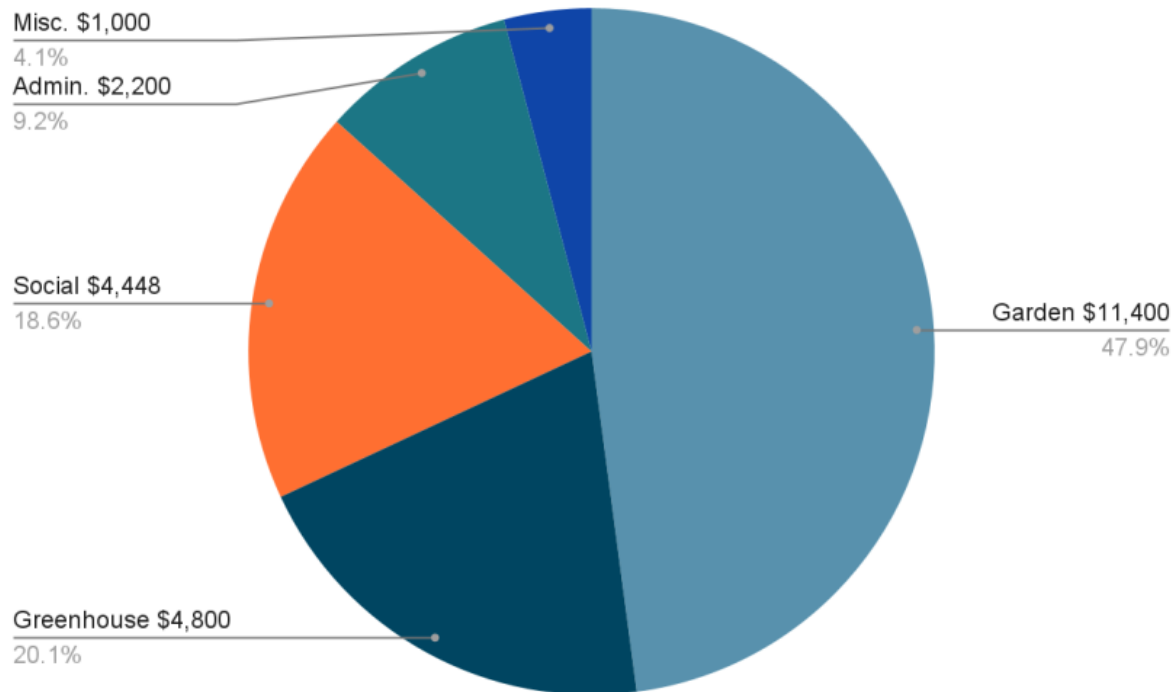
SCIENCE AT WORK!
Tonight is heating up the soil under the plastic,
helping control the weeds, pathogens, and pests!
Please stay off the black plastic





So How Do We Do All of This?

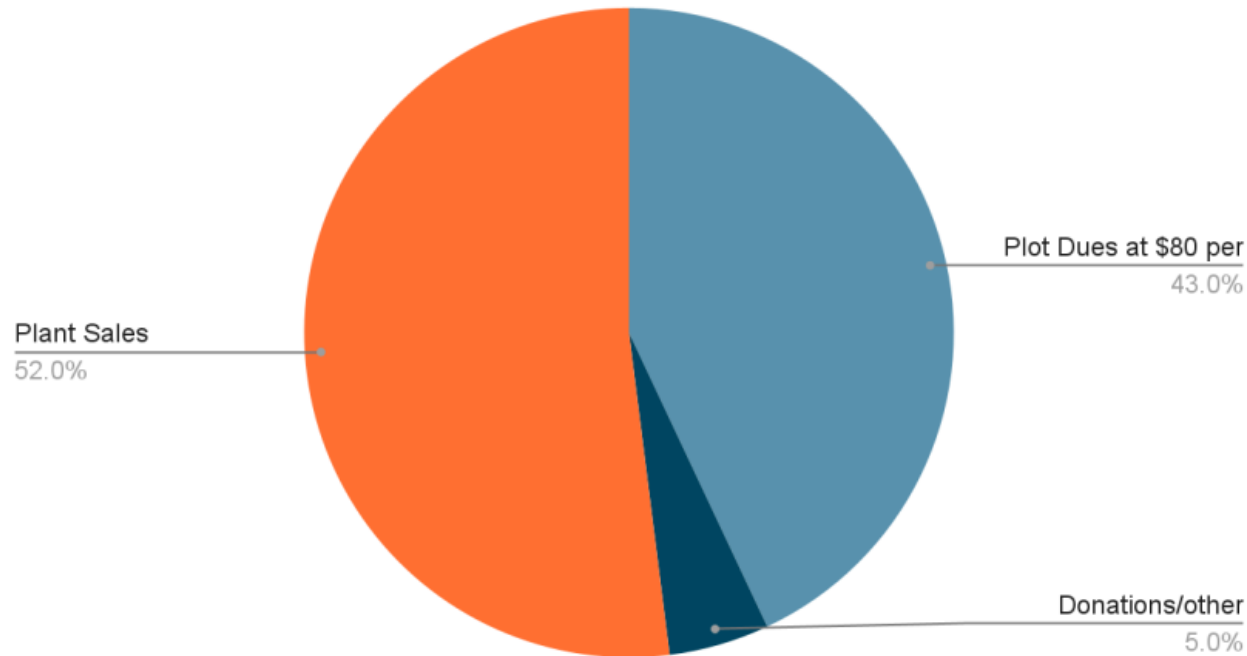
It takes a lot of dedicated volunteers and money.....



DCGO 2024-25 Expenses

Where do we get our funds?

DCGO Income



Planned for 2025-
26.....

Complete installation
of Entry Garden



Packet page:...

Planning Ahead

Upgrading the Garden irrigation system

Implementing BEST PRACTICES for IPM within a community garden

2026 Master Gardener Talk program, Plant Sale