



A National Collaborative Movement
to Forge Healthy
and Safe Communities

GunsToGardens.org
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Who: National partners collaborating to initiate gun buybacks and implement a “guns to gardens” strategy for creating safe and healthy neighborhoods. Each of the partner communities have their own unique context of gun violence.

What: By overlapping a buyback model with a sword to plowshare model, these national partners create new space for community involvement in solutions to gun violence.

When: June 11, 2022, and the second Saturday in June in following years.

Where: This is a national collaborative of partners from across the country. Local neighborhoods and communities have organized buybacks in the past or are starting this year. Visit gunstogardens.org for a list of 2022 participants.

Why: New 2020 statistics show almost 125 people die per day from gun violence in the United States. Gun buybacks are one prong of a multipronged approach to ending gun violence. The sword to plowshare integration with buyback programs allows the various intersections of gun violence (suicide, youth, domestic violence, street violence, safe storage, etc) a creative avenue to connect to their communities. Buybacks are often paired with separate events where one of the disabled guns is turned into a garden tool, art, or jewelry and the local community is invited to take part in the process. Buybacks are a successful way to offer safe gun disposal to communities.

How to get involved:

Visit gunstogardens.org to see the partners for 2022. If one is close, use the email link to contact them to help support their efforts. If you don't see one in your area, contact mike@rawtools.org to start organizing for 2023. We can send a best practices workbook on how to organize a new buyback or come alongside a buyback schedule that is already happening in your area.

