

HISTORY OF THE FORMATION OF NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS (NGC)

Garden clubs began forming in the United States as early as 1891 with the creation of the first one in Athens, GA. As the number of garden clubs grew, these clubs saw the advantages of joining together into state federations to address common concerns such as groundwater and parks.

On March 11, 1929, representatives of the nineteen state federations were invited to come to New York City to discuss the possibility of forming a national organization. The group's main objective was to form an organization emphasizing horticulture. The bylaws stated the objective was "to bring into relations of mutual helpfulness the State Federations of Garden Clubs, and to make combined action possible when deemed expedient."

This new organization was named The National Council of State Garden Club Federations (or "National Council" for short). In 1935 the name changed to National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc. (NCSGC) and again in 2001 to National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC). The basic objectives on which National Garden Clubs was formed are still relevant today – knowledge and networking among members across the nation to have one powerful voice.



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