

# Community Gardens Program Toolkit





# Community Gardens Program Toolkit

## Toronto Parks and Recreation Division

### *Vision*

Toronto will be known by the world as the “City within a Park” -- a rich fabric of parks, open space, rivers and streams that connect our neighbourhoods and join us with our clean, vibrant lakefront. The world will envy and seek to emulate the healthy, productive and balanced lives that the people of Toronto have achieved.

### *Mission*

Members of Toronto’s diverse communities will have full and equitable access to high caliber, locally responsive recreational programs, efficiently operated facilities and safe, clean and beautiful parks, open spaces, ravines and forests.

For further information on community gardening, please contact the Community Gardens Program Office at:  
City of Toronto, Economic Development, Culture & Tourism Department  
Parks and Recreation Division  
100 Queen St. West, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor East Tower  
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2  
Phone: 416-392-7800



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# Put Yourself in the Picture!



Photo by: Barbara Titherington

Harvest at the York Community Services Garden

**Join Us in Our Work and Celebration of  
The Fruits of Our Labour!**

## Message from the General Manager

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Every generation discovers a new purpose for city parks. Back in the 1880s, when downtown industrial growth meant soot and smoke, Toronto's parks were celebrated as "the lungs of the city". Parks were places where people could retreat from the hustle of daily life to find peace and quiet in nature. At the turn of the century, parks and open spaces came to be appreciated as places where youth could develop their physical and moral strength. Parks were health outlets for Toronto young people's boundless energy.

More recently, as hours of work gradually dropped and family time came to be more valued, parks and open spaces became places where the entire family could enjoy an outing and where children's playgrounds were available. That's when the once-separate terms "parks" and "recreation" came to be linked together and spoken about in the same breath, as we do today.

At the beginning of a new millenium, a new generation of Toronto citizens see community gardening as an important function of city parks. Citizen-tended gardens help keep parks attractive and safe. They also provide recreational opportunities for young and old. They are places where families can grow together, where children can learn with their parents about where food comes from and the caring that goes into growing it.

Our green spaces continue to serve as lungs for our city by reducing carbon and nitrogen from the atmosphere, pumping out fresh oxygen and water vapour, and cutting down the need to import as much produce. With the Community Gardens Program, Torontonians can grow and eat fresh produce from their own local neighbourhoods. Community gardens provide new ways for parks to link with the world around them. They enhance fresh food production and stimulating community development.

So, community gardens honour the traditions that have made Toronto's parks and open spaces so important among our public as well as sow the seeds for new traditions. Our generation of Parks and Recreation staff are privileged to be able to play a role in promoting these new traditions. We hope this booklet makes community gardens even more accessible and popular than they are now.



Claire Tucker-Reid  
General Manager, Parks and Recreation

# **BOUNTIFUL HARVEST!**



Photo by: Barbara Titherington

Vegetables harvested at the Jane Woolner Community Garden

# INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMUNITY GARDENS PROGRAM

The Community Gardens Program began with the idea that well-used, clean, and safe parks are essential to the health and vitality of urban living. Toronto is blessed with many small community parks. The creation of various gardens spread throughout City parks has contributed to the well being of the parks, providing safe places for relaxation and recreation.

A special project of the Parks and Recreation Division, the Community Gardens Program works in harmony with the vision and mission statements of the Economic Development, Culture and Tourism Department. The Program endeavours to provide opportunities for community groups to start food, flower or native species gardens that beautify and enhance public lands. To do this most effectively, the Program develops partnerships with a wide variety of groups and organizations. For example, the initial partnership brought the Program together with FoodShare and the Toronto Food Policy Council. Together we created “Just Grow It,” a youth training and mentoring project. With funding for “Just Grow It” provided by Youth Services Canada, the City’s Parks and Recreation Division and FoodShare hired fourteen youth to help neighbourhood organizations establish community gardens in their local parks. In the process, the youth gained job training, horticultural education and invaluable life skills. Parks and Recreation currently oversees more than 2500 plots in over 100 community gardens.

Since its inception in 1997, the Community Gardens Program has witnessed a number of positive changes. Neighbours are returning to outdoor green spaces, and school and daycare teachers are using community gardens as outdoor classrooms. These evidences illustrate that increased community involvement and improved horticulture practices create better parks and better neighbourhoods. Recognizing the social and environmental value of community gardens, City Council in 1999 endorsed the Community Garden Action Plan, which seeks to establish a community garden in every ward by the year 2003. The Community Gardens Program will play a key role in implementing this Action Plan.

This is a guide to budding community gardeners who would like to garden in City parks or on other City-owned lands. The toolkit explains how to work with City staff so you can start gardening as quickly as possible.

The Community Gardens Program reflects three key priorities for Toronto Parks and Recreation: child and youth development, life long health and wellness for all, and environmental stewardship.



# OBJECTIVES OF THE COMMUNITY GARDENS PROGRAM

1.  
To identify potential  
community garden sites  
throughout Toronto



2.  
To develop partnerships between  
Parks and Recreation and various  
community groups for the  
development of community  
gardens

3.  
To nurture a diverse group of  
users and to develop a  
sustaining base of community  
garden volunteers



4.  
To provide horticultural training  
to community groups, and to  
promote quality care of  
community gardens



5.  
To provide technical assistance  
for the groups, partnering in  
the stewardship of our parks  
and other city-owned lands



# BENEFITS OF COMMUNITY GARDENS IN THE CITY OF TORONTO

The Community Gardens Program is cultivating a dynamic community gardening movement across Toronto. Working in partnership with a wide variety of organizations, program staff draw on the collective heritage from Toronto's distinctive cultures. Community gardens benefit everyone by creating a safe and healthy recreational activity within parks and on other city-owned lands.

In recent years, public interest in gardening has increased dramatically. It is considered the second most popular leisure activity in Canada, engaging 72% of Canadian adults, according to the 2000 Physical Activity Monitor\* published by the Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute. Public parks and other city-owned lands provide opportunities for creating and demonstrating the benefits of gardening.

In doing so, they encourage individuals to be part of a community that shares the efforts and benefits of gardening.

Community gardens are safe, beautiful outdoor spaces on public or private lands, where neighbours meet to grow and care for vegetables, flowers and native plant species.

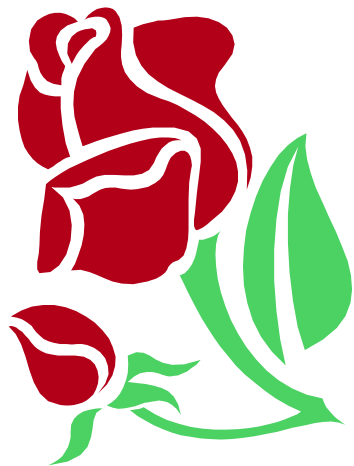
The gardeners take responsibility for organizing and managing the garden area. This participation builds skills and creates positive community opportunities accessible to a diverse range of people. Partnerships with the City, other levels of government, and community organizations have already created additional benefits by fostering youth employment, volunteer activity, and the restoration of natural areas.

Community gardens have been shown to revitalize areas where vandalism and illegal activities degraded places intended for community programs and celebration. This transformation takes place when community gardens incorporate sustained involvement by youth, families, seniors, and diverse ethnic groups.

There are measurable outcomes that document the success of this effort. At a number of park sites, crime, graffiti, and negative park use have declined considerably. Park programs and events have increased, and community groups have become increasingly influential advocates for positive park use.

\* [www.cflri.ca/cflri/pa/surveys/2000survey/2000survey.html](http://www.cflri.ca/cflri/pa/surveys/2000survey/2000survey.html)

*...the program draws on  
the collective heritage  
from Toronto's  
distinctive cultures...*



...gardening is now  
regarded as the second  
most popular leisure  
activity in Canada...

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### *What is a Community Garden?*

A community garden is a place where people grow and maintain various types of plants. Community gardens provide access to land for people who may not have land of their own. Also, community gardens appeal to people who enjoy fostering community and wish to see their local neighbourhood beautified. It is an excellent way to celebrate Toronto's unity in diversity through shared visioning and ongoing participation.

Once the community garden is established, it can be divided into plots for each individual/family to cultivate. Alternatively, all decisions can be made collectively. In either case, members of community gardens must be accountable for the upkeep of their garden for the entire season.

Community gardens also have a place to grow on lands owned by individuals, companies or organizations.

Churches, childcare centres and many other organizations are starting to offer space for gardeners.

To find out how you can participate in community gardening on non-City

lands, contact Laura Berman, Community Garden Network at 416-392-1668 or [laura@foodshare.net](mailto:laura@foodshare.net).

### *Is there a difference between a Community Garden and an Allotment Garden?*

Yes, there is a difference between community and allotment gardens. In an allotment, you pay a seasonal fee for an assigned plot in a garden, and do not need to be a part of a community group when applying for a space. A community garden involves a group effort in terms of the decision-making process and getting the garden established in the community.



### *How do I get started?*

In order to get started, a community group must follow the Community Garden Application Process (page 18).



## ***What constitutes a community group?***

In order to start a community garden, you will need the support and commitment of at least five community members who assure accountability for the upkeep of the garden. The Implementation Process (page 19) is a way for the Parks and Recreation Community Gardens Co-ordinator to meet interested groups and gauge the overall commitment of the community group in question. Attendance at these meetings will often predict the overall success of the community garden as it evolves from vision to harvest. There will usually be a core group that will decide on what role each member will play. Most importantly, each group needs a garden co-ordinator, who will oversee the project and work with the City to gain support. The group will determine other roles.

## ***Do I need to be a gardening expert to start a Community Garden?***

Although it is sometimes beneficial for the morale of the group to have an “expert” gardener, it is not a necessity. Many resources and experts within the

community gardening network can be consulted, should the need arise.

Since community gardening is about building community, the most desirable attributes for an aspiring garden co-ordinator are knowledge of the community and the ability to work with people. If the co-ordinator can communicate in a way that increases overall participation, chances for success will be greatly enhanced.

## ***How do we select an appropriate site for the garden?***

An ideal community garden site has the following attributes:

- It receives at least six hours of sun per day
- It is close to watering facilities, but does not interfere with any underground pipes or lines
- It is convenient for community members to get to
- It does not affect the community's enjoyment of other park functions: dog walking, sports, picnicking, etc.



## *What support can I expect from the City?*

The City provides support with the site selection process. First, you may identify locations that are appropriate for your community garden and safe for people to work in. Then:

- Contact the Community Gardens Program Co-ordinator and identify the specific location
- The Community Gardens Program Co-ordinator investigates title history of the site to determine ownership (City or private), and other conditions for use of the site.
- The site will be reviewed by Parks and Recreation Staff, ensuring that electrical, gas or telephone lines have been clearly identified so that there will not be any disruption to these utilities.



## *Does this site have to be accessible to all people?*

Your community garden should be accessible to those members of your community who have contributed time and energy to build and maintain the garden site. However, some groups decide they are comfortable with other people coming to the garden. That is a decision which the group must deal with.



## *How do we agree on a design?*

Before the Community Gardens Co-ordinator can offer support, a site plan must be submitted.

Agreeing on a design can be a demanding process, especially if there are competing visions for the garden. If such circumstances arise, it may be necessary to seek impartial advice outside of the group. The City's Community Gardens Co-ordinator can offer suggestions based on what is ideal for the site conditions: light, soil, and context of the garden.

Understanding these conditions can help groups determine the best design.

### ***Are vandalism and theft major concerns for community gardeners?***

Vandalism and theft may concern community gardeners. However, there have not been any major incidents reported. It is recommended that you post signs and put up a fence as an extra precautionary measure. The signage helps to keep people informed and aware of what is happening in their community. A fence lets people know that there is a boundary, and it would be greatly appreciated if those boundaries are respected.

The Community Gardens Program can offer support with signage and fencing.

### ***Is Community Gardening Costly?***

There is no direct cost to acquiring the space for a community garden. There are, however, some items that may cost your group some money, depending on your group's interest: soil tests, tools, compost delivery, compost bin, fencing, or plant material. There are different agencies and organizations that provide funding for eligible groups. Many of these organizations have websites you can visit on Internet.

### ***How do we access water?***

Check the Community Garden Implementation Process (page 19), on how to access water. Keep in mind that watering often becomes an issue in midsummer, after the initial spring planting fever has subsided. A successful community garden will have a watering schedule outlined in advance of the garden installation. The community gardeners might consider designing the garden for low water consumption (xeriscaping).

### ***How long will the process take to get our Community Garden started?***

The time to get started depends on each group's situation. Did you follow the implementation process? Do you have enough core members? Has the site been selected already? Is there sufficient community interest? These variables all affect the time the process will take.

### ***How do we involve the children in our community?***

A group might approach parents, childcare centres, and schools in the community to engage the children in gardening. Plots can also be reserved for fun events in the garden. Use your imagination and have fun!

## IMPORTANCE OF PARTNERSHIPS

While some community members may be enthusiastic about getting a community garden started in their area, others may have concerns.

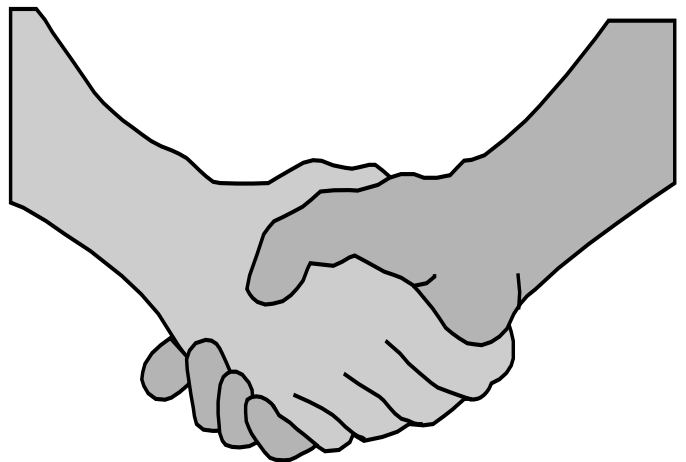
A crucial component of the Community Gardens Program is the practice of active listening. Staff help community members to define their needs and to find positive ways to meet those needs effectively, with the support of the Parks and Recreation Division.

In almost all cases, the Program has seen fear and disinterest overcome by the implementation of a community garden. Once it's up and growing, the benefits the garden brings to the neighbourhood are clear for all to see.

The wide range of partners in the Community Gardens Program reflects the strong community interest and diverse client base for community gardens. One mechanism for facilitating partnerships is the Community Garden Advisory Committee (CGAC). The CGAC consists of people from a varied set of experiences and interests, who meet to discuss and advise on issues related to community gardening in the city.

### *Our partners have included:*

- ❖ FoodShare
- ❖ Toronto Community Garden Network
- ❖ Toronto Food Policy Council
- ❖ Toronto & Region Conservation Authority
- ❖ Community Residents
- ❖ Cooperative Housing
- ❖ Schools and Daycare Centres
- ❖ Churches
- ❖ Halfway Houses
- ❖ Hospitals and Seniors Homes
- ❖ The Stop 103
- ❖ Human Resource Development Canada (Youth Services Canada)
- ❖ AfriCan Food Basket





## LOCAL COMMUNITY GARDENING INTERNET RESOURCES

The following is a list of Internet sites for services and resources that may be helpful to you in creating your garden.

**City Of Toronto's Allan Gardens Conservatory**  
[collections.ic.gc.ca/gardens](http://collections.ic.gc.ca/gardens)

**City of Toronto Community Gardening Program**  
[www.city.toronto.on.ca/parks/programs/community.htm](http://www.city.toronto.on.ca/parks/programs/community.htm)

**City Of Toronto's Food Policy Council**  
[www.city.toronto.on.ca/health/foodpolicy/index.html](http://www.city.toronto.on.ca/health/foodpolicy/index.html)

**City Of Toronto's Riverdale Farm**  
[www.city.toronto.on.ca/parks/riverdalefarm.htm](http://www.city.toronto.on.ca/parks/riverdalefarm.htm)

**Hillcrest Community Gardens**  
[Free.freespeech.org/hillcrestgarden/about.html](http://Free.freespeech.org/hillcrestgarden/about.html)

**FoodShare**  
[www.foodshare.net/grow.htm](http://www.foodshare.net/grow.htm)

## OTHER USEFUL COMMUNITY GARDENING INTERNET RESOURCES

Canada's Office of Urban Agriculture  
[www.cityfarmer.org](http://www.cityfarmer.org)

Montreal Community Gardens Program  
[www.cityfarmer.org/Montreal13.html#Montreal](http://www.cityfarmer.org/Montreal13.html#Montreal)

American Community Gardening Association  
[www.communitygarden.org](http://www.communitygarden.org)

Austin Community Gardens  
[www.austin360.com/community/groups/acg/](http://www.austin360.com/community/groups/acg/)

Colorado Springs Xeriscape Demonstration Garden  
[www.csu.org/xeri](http://www.csu.org/xeri)

Denver Urban Gardens  
[www.dug.org](http://www.dug.org)

The Garden Gate  
[Garden-gate.prairienet.org](http://Garden-gate.prairienet.org)

Garden Web  
[www.gardenweb.com](http://www.gardenweb.com)

Homeless Garden Project  
[www.homelessgardenproject.org](http://www.homelessgardenproject.org)

Portland Community Gardens  
[www.parks.ci.portland.or.us/Parks/CommunityGardens.htm](http://www.parks.ci.portland.or.us/Parks/CommunityGardens.htm)

San Francisco League of Urban Gardeners  
[www.grass-roots.org/usa/slug.shtml](http://www.grass-roots.org/usa/slug.shtml)

# APPLICATION PROCESS

**In order to receive help to create a garden, representatives of the community group must complete an application process.**

The application requires a description of the group, including:

- its members
- its experience doing projects together
- its purpose
- its organization and decision-making structure
- the time commitment of each member
- the tasks each person has committed to

**The group is required to identify a vacant space and obtain permission from the landowner to use it.**

The group must describe the following characteristics:

- size
- present use
- history
- access to water, sun and delivery trucks
- site plans (one plan of site in its current state, and one of the envisioned project)
- the impact on the neighbourhood
- organizations which have been, or will, be contacted
- maintenance schedule
- list of site preparation needs, hardscape needs, plant needs
- list of tools and a tool storage plan

*Once the application has been approved, the group will be eligible to receive technical assistance from the Community Gardens Program.*

**For further information, please contact:**

**Community Gardens Program Coordinator  
City of Toronto, Economic Development, Culture & Tourism Department  
Parks and Recreation Division  
100 Queen St. West, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor East Tower  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5H 2N2**

# IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

Toronto City Council has endorsed the recommendation of the Environmental Task Force encouraging the Parks & Recreation Division to advance Community Gardens in City Parks and other City-owned lands.

The following outlines the Community Garden implementation procedure:

1. A community group member will initiate contact with the Community Gardens Program Co-ordinator.
2. The community group will identify potential sites with help from the Community Gardens Program Co-ordinator by sending a formal written request for a specific site.
3. The site will be investigated for title history to determine ownership and other conditions for use.
4. The Community Gardens Program Co-ordinator, the Parks and Recreation Supervisor and/or other staff from the Parks and Recreation Division will review the site, ensuring stakeouts for electrical, gas or telephone lines have been carried out.
5. Reports are prepared by the Community Gardens Program Co-ordinator for review by District management. The implementation process must be completed within a nine-month period.
6. Community consultations occur by public meeting process, with the guidance of Parks and Recreation Staff and the Ward Councillor.
7. The group's proposed design will be assessed through a consultative process with the community group.
8. Financial requirements and sources of funding will be confirmed and approved by the Parks and Recreation Division.
9. The completed Community Garden permit and regulation form requires the signature of the District Director of Parks and Recreation.
10. The community group will send a list of materials required and a timeline to the Community Gardens Program Co-ordinator to ensure the community group is prepared.
11. The community group and the Community Gardens Program Co-ordinator will agree on a date to begin work.
12. Works and Emergency Services will be notified, if necessary, of the date to resolve any issues with water access.
13. The Community Gardens Program Co-ordinator will provide orientation training about community gardening in the City, as well as on-going advice and technical support.
14. A seasonal community gardening permit and regulations will be issued and reviewed on an annual basis.

# APPENDIX I



Economic Development, Culture and Tourism  
Parks and Recreation Division  
100 Queen St. West, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor East Tower  
Toronto Ontario, M5H 2N2

## Community Gardens Program Permit

Shaded area for office use only

Permit is valid between: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Parks and Recreation Manager's Approval: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

**Community Garden Location:** (site address/park name if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (site postal code) \_\_\_\_\_

**Garden Group Co-ordinator's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (evening) \_\_\_\_\_

Permission will be granted to the above-named Garden Group Co-ordinator by Toronto Parks and Recreation to organize the installation of a community garden at the above-named site, subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. This permit is not assignable or transferable.
2. The use of said garden shall be at the risk of the users of the garden.
3. The City has the right to remove the garden if it is not regularly or adequately maintained.
4. The City shall not be responsible for loss of, or damage to crops, equipment or other property of the Garden Group Co-ordinator or any other person or for injury to the Garden Group Co-ordinator or any other person.
5. This permit is issued subject to applicable by-laws, including the Toronto Parks By-law and may be withdrawn at any time on written notice to the Garden Group Co-ordinator at the address above.
6. The period of this permit shall be seasonal. Before the expiration date, all produce, crops, personal property belonging to the Gardeners must be removed from said plot.
7. After the expiration of the said period, any produce, crops, equipment or other property of the Garden Group Co-ordinator or any other person shall be disposed of at the discretion of the City and there shall be no liability of such disposal.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Garden Group Co-ordinator) accept and agree to the above terms and conditions and understand that as Garden Group Co-ordinator, I am responsible for the following:

1. Upholding the regulations stated on the reverse of this form and ensuring that each new gardener is given a copy or told verbally of the regulations.
2. Being the person that City staff will contact regarding site issues (e.g. tools left on site, site upkeep).
3. Ensuring garden maintenance is undertaken by the Garden Group during the permit period. Minimal requirements are: site upkeep, fall clean-up and compost maintenance.
4. Maintaining a current list of community gardeners using the site.
5. Receiving mail/newsletters/workshop invitations on behalf of the garden group and posting or otherwise sharing these with other gardeners.
6. Informing the City if the above responsibilities cannot be fulfilled.

Garden Group Co-ordinators Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

A copy of this form will be returned to the Garden Group Co-ordinator

***\*The completed shaded portion of this document confirms that permission has been granted to Co-ordinate the installation of a garden at the site named above.***

## APPENDIX II



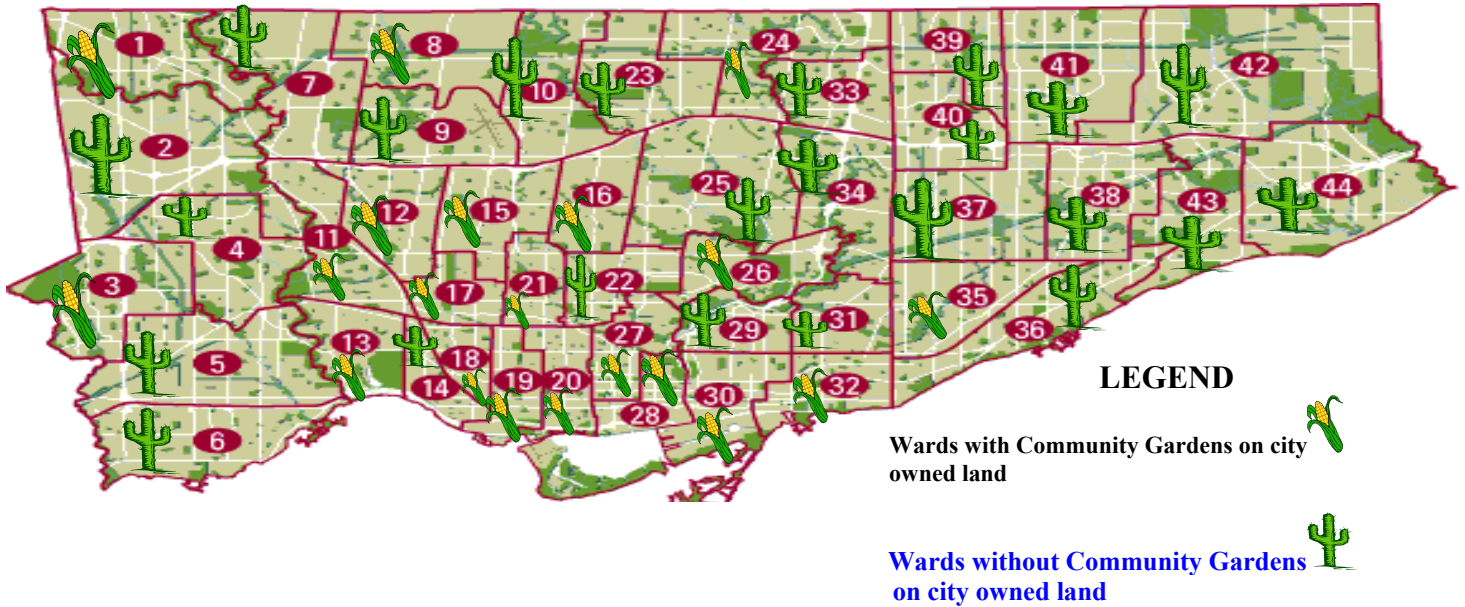
### Community Gardens Program Regulations

1. Members and guests must abide by all City by-laws, including, Toronto Parks By-law.
2. Garden plots and communal beds must be maintained to the satisfaction of the Garden Group Coordinator. This includes normal watering, weeding and general care of the assigned plot. If your space is unutilized by June 1<sup>st</sup> or if it is unattended for two weeks, it will be reassigned to the next person on the waiting list.
3. If you are away for more than two weeks, you must find someone to look after your plot in your absence and inform the Garden Group Coordinator. If you can't find someone, inform the Garden Group Co-ordinator so that other arrangements can be made. Gardeners wishing to cancel mid-season should notify the Garden Group Co-ordinator so that plots may be reassigned.
4. Chemical insecticides, herbicides, fungicides and fertilizers are prohibited in the garden. Only Diatomaceous Earth and Insecticidal Soaps may be used in the control of pests. Only compost and composted manures may be used in soil conditioning and fertilization.
5. Illegal plants are strictly prohibited. Trees and other woody plants are not allowed on individual plots but may be allowed on communal plots with permission from Parks and Recreation. Vegetables, grains, berries, fruits, beans, herbs and flowers are allowed on individual and communal plots.
6. Use on-site recycling and trash bins as provided. Community Garden Groups are encouraged to establish and maintain a composting area.
7. Pets must be kept on a leash in the garden. Pet owners are required to clean and remove all pet droppings immediately (*stoop and scoop*). Do not compost pet droppings as this is a health hazard for humans.
8. Laneways and paths are to be kept clear of obstacles. Tools and personal property must not be left on the site overnight.
9. Installation of any fencing, boards or any other materials to enclose the garden is prohibited without consent from Parks and Recreation.
10. Loud music is prohibited. Please respect the neighbours.
11. Vehicles must not be driven into the garden.
12. Water supply is limited. Please use sparingly. Groups are encouraged to reuse rainwater.
13. It is recommended that gardening activity take place during daylight hours.
14. Produce from plants may not be sold.
15. Please report any vandalism to the Garden Group Co-ordinator: it is recommended that the damage be repaired as quickly as possible.

In the event of non-compliance with the above rules, the Garden Group Co-ordinator will issue a verbal or written notice to the member. If at the end of a two-week period the problem has not been solved, the plot will be reassigned, and membership revoked. **Parks and Recreation Operations staff conduct regular inspection of garden areas; if any contravention of rules is found, the Garden Group Co-ordinator will be notified and it may result in cancellation of garden privileges.**

# APPENDIX III

## MAP LISTING: PARKS AND OTHER CITY-OWNED LANDS



Ward	Community Garden (CG)	Location
Ward 1 Etobicoke North	Village Green Park CG	Village Green Park 925 Albion Rd. (Albion & Islington)
Ward 3 Etobicoke Centre	Heathercrest Park CG	Heathercrest Park (Storey Cres. & Anitoch Dr.)
Ward 8 York West	Oakdale Community Centre CG	Oakdale Community Centre 350 Grandravine Dr. (Jane St. & Grandravine Dr.)
Ward 12 York South Weston	Rockcliffe Yard Greenhouse and CG demonstration site	301 Rockcliffe Blvd. (Rockcliffe Blvd. & Alliance Rd.)
Ward 13 Parkdale-High Park	High Park Children's Garden	High Park (High Park St. & Parkside Dr.)

Ward 15 Eglinton-Lawrence	Lawrence Heights CG	Lawrence Heights Community Centre 5 Replin Rd. <i>(Leila Lane &amp; Flemington ) (Old Meadow Lane, Blossomfield Rd.)</i>
Ward 16 Eglinton-Lawrence	Eglinton Park Heritage & CG	North Toronto Memorial Community Centre 1200 Eglinton Ave. <i>(West of Yonge, East of Avenue)</i>
Ward 17 Davenport	Stop 103 CG	Earlscourt Park 1200 Lansdowne Ave. <i>(West of Lansdowne, South of St. Claire)</i>
Ward 18 Davenport	Big Back Yard CG	Dufferin Grove Park <i>(South of Bloor on east side of Dufferin)</i>
Ward 19 Trinity- Spadina	Dundas & Manning CG	Dundas St. & Manning St. <i>(South of Dundas, east side of Manning)</i>
	John Gibson House CG	Trinity Bellwoods Park 1053 Dundas St. West <i>(South on Dundas, east side of Crawford)</i>
Ward 20 Trinity-Spadina	Alex Wilson CG	552 Richmond St. West <i>(South on Queen, east side of Bathurst)</i>
	Huron St. CG	Huron St. & College St. <i>(behind Lillian H. Smith Library at Huron and College – south on College St., west side of Huron St.)</i>
	Bloor Bedford CG	Bedford Road Parkette <i>(Bloor St. &amp; Bedford Rd.)</i>
	Preserving Our Health CG	Scadding Crt. Community Centre <i>(South of Bathurst, east side of Dundas)</i>
	Bernard Ave. Parkette CG	Bernard Ave. and Avenue Rd. <i>(fronting on 2 Bernard Ave., immediately west of existing public park area)</i>
	Cecil Community Centre CG	Cecil Community Centre <i>(behind community centre at Cecil St. between Spadina and Huron St.)</i>
Ward 21 St. Paul's	Hillcrest Park CG	Hillcrest Park <i>(North on Davenport St., west side of Christie Ave.)</i>
Ward 24 Willowdale	Garden on the Ravine CG Contact: Dale Peters Phone: 416-492-9891	Villaways Park Leslie St. & Sheppard Ave. <i>(North of Sheppard, west side of Leslie)</i>



Ward 26 Don Valley West	Thorncliffe Garden Club CG	Thorncliffe Blvd. & Beth Neilson Dr. <i>(Hydro corridors)</i>
Ward 27 Toronto Centre-Rosedale	Moss Park CG	Queen St. & Sherbourne St. <i>(North of Queen, East of Sherbourne)</i>
Ward 28 Toronto Centre-Rosedale	Sackville Park CG	Sackville St. & King St. East <i>(North of King St. East at Sackville St.)</i>
	Riverdale Farm CG	Old Cabbagetown Area at 201 Winchester Street <i>(Winchester at Riverdale Farm east of Parliament on Winchester)</i>
	Prospect St. CG	Old Cabbagetown Area <i>(South on Wellesely, west side of Parliament St., opposite 35 Prospect St.)</i>
Ward 30: Toronto-Danforth	Oakvale Green CG	Oakvale Park Greenwood St. & Danforth Ave. <i>(Adjacent to 73 Oakvale Ave.)</i>
	Don Mount Court CG	Don Mount Court Housing Complex <i>(1 block east of DVP between Dundas &amp; Queen)</i>
Ward 32 Beaches-East York	Ashbridge ECO Garden	101 Coxwell Ave. <i>(Dundas St. East, east of Coxwell near 55 Division Police station)</i>
Ward 35 Scarborough Southwest	Warden Woods Community Centre CG	Warden Woods Community Centre 76 Fir Valley Ct. <i>(St. Clair Ave. &amp; Warden Ave.)</i>



## APPENDIX IV

# Toronto's Food Charter

*In 1976, Canada signed the United Nations Covenant on Social, Economic and Cultural Rights, which includes “the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger.” The City of Toronto supports our national commitment to food security, and the following beliefs:*

*Every Toronto resident should have access to an adequate supply of nutritious, affordable and culturally-appropriate food.*

*Food security contributes to the health and well-being of residents while reducing their need for medical care.*

*Food is central to Toronto's economy, and the commitment to food security can strengthen the food sector's growth and development.*

*Food brings people together in celebrations of community and diversity and is an important part of the city's culture.*

*Therefore, to promote food security, Toronto City Council will:*

- ▷ champion the right of all residents to adequate amounts of safe, nutritious, culturally-acceptable food without the need to resort to emergency food providers
- ▷ advocate for income, employment, housing, and transportation policies that support secure and dignified access to the food people need
- ▷ support events highlighting the city's diverse and multicultural food traditions
- ▷ promote food safety programs and services
- ▷ sponsor nutrition programs and services that promote healthy growth and help prevent diet-related diseases
- ▷ ensure convenient access to an affordable range of healthy foods in city facilities
- ▷ adopt food purchasing practices that serve as a model of health, social and environmental responsibility
- ▷ partner with community, cooperative, business and government organizations to increase the availability of healthy foods
- ▷ encourage community gardens that increase food self-reliance, improve fitness, contribute to a cleaner environment, and enhance community development
- ▷ protect local agricultural lands and support urban agriculture
- ▷ encourage the recycling of organic materials that nurture soil fertility
- ▷ foster a civic culture that inspires all Toronto residents and all city departments to support food programs that provide cultural, social, economic and health benefits
- ▷ work with community agencies, residents' groups, businesses and other levels of government to achieve these goals.



*Reference Manual*  
*Fall, 2002*