

Helpful Community Garden Resources (Appendix 1)

Information Sources



Appendix 1.1: General Information Guides

- Peter Ladner, “Urban Food Revolution — Changing the Way We Feed Cities.” New Society Publishers, Gabriola Island, BC (2011).
- City of Victoria:
 - [Building a Community Garden in Your Neighbourhood](#)
 - [Community Gardens and Orchards](#)
 - [Growing Food and Gardening in Mixed-Use, Multi-Unit Residential Developments](#)
- City of Vancouver: [Community Gardens Accessibility Guidelines](#)
- Community Garden Builders
 - This Vancouver organization offers [a free app](#) (community management platform) that makes it easy to sign up gardeners, track who is registered and paid, and collaborate as a team.
- Comost Education Centre and Royal Roads University, “[Map Dealing with Soil Heavy Metal Levels in Victoria Region 2016-19](#)”
- Kwantlen Polytechnic University’s Institute for Sustainable Food Systems maintains a [B.C. Food System Policy Database](#) – a centralized resource for planners, policy makers, community advocates, local organizations and the policy curious to search for policy precedents and to better understand how local government policy in B.C. is addressing local food systems. The interactive database allows searches by a range of characteristics to find food system policies adopted by local governments across B.C.

Appendix 1.2: Organizing a Community Garden

- Guidelines and By-Laws
 - Capital City Allotment Association, “[Terms and Conditions](#)” - a sample document from one of Victoria’s oldest and largest allotment garden. These Terms and Conditions cover plot assignment, lease agreements, maintenance, enforcement and expectations for plot holders.
 - St. George’s Anglican Church (Cadboro Bay, Saanich), “[Parish Community Garden Rules and Guidelines](#)” – a sample from a local Anglican church community garden founded in 2016. This garden invites two types of members and provides individual plots, as well as shared communal plots.
- Member Agreements
 - St. George’s Anglican Church (Cadboro Bay, Saanich), [St. George’s Parish Community Garden - Membership and Vegetable Bed Agreement](#)
 - Farmlands Trust (Greater Victoria) Society, “[Volunteer Application Form](#)” - Started in 2008, this charitable not-for-profit Society grows produce for people in need. This application form gathers information to match the skills, experience, and availability of volunteers with the gardening activities.

Appendix 1.2: Organizing a Community Garden

- Landholder Partnerships
 - City of Victoria, "[Community Gardens Policy – Revised 2019](#)"
 - District of Saanich, "[Community Gardens Policy](#)"
 - University Campus Community Garden, "[Annual Report 2019/2020](#)" - This recent Annual Report provides an overview of gardening activities with special attention to how to build community in a community garden.
 - Capital City Allotment Association, "[Brief History of the Allotment Gardens Area and Swan Creek](#)" - A useful overview of a partnership between the 3-hectare allotment garden and the District of Saanich, bounded by an urban road grid. By co-operating in stewardship practices, the partners have taken steps to restore the natural ecology, deal with annual flooding, and avoid degradation of water quality in Swan Lake.
 - Farmlands Trust (Greater Victoria) Society, "[Annual Report 2019/2020](#)" - Founded in 2008, this Society maintains the Newman Farm on a license agreement with Central Saanich. This recent report describes public benefit contributions. With assistance from many volunteers, this garden's "field to plate" program has shared over 64,000 lbs of fresh local produce with those in need. It also provides relevant educational and related public awareness opportunities.

Appendix 1.3: Financial Support

- City of Victoria, "[Community Garden Start-Up Grants](#)" - The City of Victoria provides grants to eligible organizations to support in the design, planning, engagement and build of new community gardens in the City of Victoria. The City also provides three other types of grant to eligible organizations:
 1. City micro grants up to a maximum of \$500, are awarded to cover supplies needed for food production in community gardens.
 2. Community Gardens Volunteer Coordinator grants are available to any neighbourhoods that manage and maintain community gardens as defined in the City's Community Garden Policy. The grants are intended to provide funding for a person to conduct outreach and coordinate volunteers and to promote educational growing opportunities for the community.
 3. My Great Neighbourhood grants support citizen-initiated projects that animate underused community spaces to create gathering spots that bring people together.
- BC Food Security Gateway, "[Funding Opportunities](#)" - The BC Food Security Gateway (the Gateway) is an online resource that provides BC communities with up-to-date food security information and links to relevant projects, initiatives, and organizations in British Columbia.

Appendix 1.4: Other Local Organizations Providing Resources, Ideas, and Education

- The [University of Victoria Campus Community Garden](#) has a comprehensive website which includes valuable references and resources for community gardeners.
- The [Compost Education Centre](#) offers resources and a teaching garden that can help gardeners to assess a site, to understand vital composting approaches, to plan for food production and manage the harvest.
- The [LifeCycles Project Society](#) takes care of the impressive Welland Community Orchard with over 100 different apple and other fruit trees. Their educational programs help people to grow their own food and to increase their access to fresh local foods.

- [Living Edge – Connecting People Changing Communities](#) is a broadly based inter-faith society provides food for people in need at 10 different locations in Greater Victoria.
- [Haliburton Farm](#) is an incubator farm in Saanich that provides multi-year urban farming experience, and related educational opportunities for small-scale organic farming.
- [The Horticulture Centre of the Pacific](#) offers multiple gardening workshops and access to demonstration gardens.
- [The Island Pollinator Initiative](#) is a coalition of groups working to protect pollinators on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands.
- [The Young Agrarians](#) provides land access supports to farmers and landowners in B.C. The BC Land Matching Program provides land matching and business support services.
- The [Food Eco District](#) website also has a wealth of resources around food growing, urban farming, and more.

Appendix 2

Community Gardens and Institutional Landholders Surveyed

Garden organisations surveyed through interviews, on-site visits or on-line access to websites and material.

UVIC Campus Community Garden	University of Victoria
Huntington Manor Hotel	Victoria — James Bay
James Bay Neighborhood Association	Victoria — James Bay
St. Georges Anglican Church	Saanich — Cadboro Bay
Monteith Gardens	Oak Bay
Neighborhood Garden of All Sorts	Victoria — James Bay
Capital City Allotment Association	Saanich
Wark Street Community Garden	Victoria — Quadra Village
Summit Health Care Facility	Victoria
Agnes Street Community Garden	Saanich
LifeCycles Project Society Welland Orchard	View Royal
Farmlands Trust (Greater Victory) Society	Central Saanich
Newman Farm	Saanich
Winchester Organic Farmers Union	Oak Bay
Banfield Park Community Orchard	Victoria – Vic West
Banfield Commons Garden	Victoria – Vic West

In addition, we acknowledge all those many people who collaborated and provided their helpful thoughts, information, and encouraged us in this research. A special thanks to Peter Ladner for contributing early advice, and for copies of his well-written 2011 book – The Urban Food Revolution. Also, thanks to David Wilkinson, Philip Wynne, and David Fitzpatrick for their advice about urban landholders, urban gardens, and specialized topics such as insurance coverage.

- Gerald Smeltzer and Stuart Cuthbertson, FED Volunteers