

MAPLE COMMUNITY NEWS

Organic Urban Gardening

Kudos

To Andrew and his team - especially Dianne, Doug, Steve, and Mothé, for all the hours that they've put into our new fences. They're even modifying our old fence to make it easier to keep the North side weed free. They - and others like Sylvain - have given much of themselves for us.

To our newest member Aaron who not only jumped onto Andrew's team, but has also accepted to be our new "I.T. guy".

Respect for all these folks.

What to plant

Crazy but true; while gardens are required to be planted by May, 25th, there are still some gardens unplanted.

Crazier still, there are still gardeners who are not taking care of the area OUTSIDE of the fences (cut grass and weed). We ask and ask. Your section reps ask. It's a contractual obligation. Please do not make us ask again; just do it. And if you can't for some reason, please talk to us.



From your Executive

Summertime and the living is busy. Long days overflowing with projects. And how fleeting it will be...

Pot luck lunch was a satisfying way to finish off a work party and feed our fence crew at the same time. From the garden we had the freshest salad from Karmina, a crazy cool dip from Mothé and a herby quinoa "tabouleh" from eddie. Thirst and hunger were sated, and we were able to go a bit deeper as a group. Those that missed it missed a beautiful moment in our garden in the city. Shall we do another one?

Communal gardens need your love. As of this writing, only three





Kits Bees

Our captured swarm has decided to supersede its queen and with luck we'll have a new one by our next newsletter. The East hive is happy and the West hive is massive (and not the best tempered).

Eddie gave a bee talk in French to young immersion students from Lord Tennyson Elementary. It was so joyous to see their amazement!

Caution! Gnomes



Careful out there, little gnomes have been sited wreaking havoc: Capturing drones, eating berries, making special beds - outside the fences! - and all around getting ready to take over the world. If seen, do try to engage, but do not try capture them as they will curse your plot. If you treat them kindly, you might just learn a trick or two because they're smart!

people have signed up to water the communal gardens. These gardens are a large part of our gift to the community at large. They help generate public support for our space. Please sign up by clicking on this link for a week (or two!). The link is now also accessible directly from our website. Commit to watering one of the two communal gardens on the West side!

Along with doing other peoples jobs outside of the fences, Kate and Rosemary care for Communal A and B. They are asking for someone to join the team and adopt Communal B. In your execs opinion, this is a wonderful opportunity to learn about gardening and enrich your life by giving to the greater good.

Anyone notice the new Mason Bee tower in Section 5? The kids at St. Johns made that as part of their giving to the environment and community program. What goes around, comes around.

Our gardener Terry needs help with his accessible bed in commons A. Preparing soil, help tending, harvesting... Terry was one of just four gardeners there the day CP Rail came to bulldoze; he locked his wheelchair to his plot and got us coverage on the CBC. Anybody care to help an awesome neighbour?

The fence is coming along beautifully. Its cost is over \$1,000 which should be covered by our grant, so we are just now dipping into our own funds. These fences will be finished soon, and then the tool shed will need to be built. That is estimated to take one day after materials have been purchased and delivered. Of course we will need volunteers (yes, another ask). It is a great opportunity to help build something that will be used for years to come.

FYI: The 9th annual Westside Community Market is coming back to Kits house. There are many opportunities to volunteer and even sell your produce. For more information, contact Amarita at market@spec.bc.ca or 604-736-7732.

This is time of year, many of us go away on trips. Please make sure that your section mates know that you are leaving and make arrangements to take care of things in your absence.

Best wishes for a wonderful June filled with joyous times and much peace in your hearts.

Your Maple Community Garden Exec