

MAPLE COMMUNITY NEWS

Organic Urban Gardening

Kudos

To Carol's brother Mark who has been taking care of our website for us even though he is not a member of the garden.

To Carol who continues to see to it that our secretarial duties are taken care of. Karen's computer has been down, and Carol just stepped back in to keep us all going.

Sincere thanks to the two of you for stepping it up when our community needed it. You are both an inspiration to all of us.

What to plant

Spring will be here before long, and now is the time to start artichokes indoors.

A couple weeks from now the same will be true for leeks and onions. Then by mid-February, consider fennel and parsley as well.

Also, by mid-February, you can direct sow radishes and spinach IF they are covered.

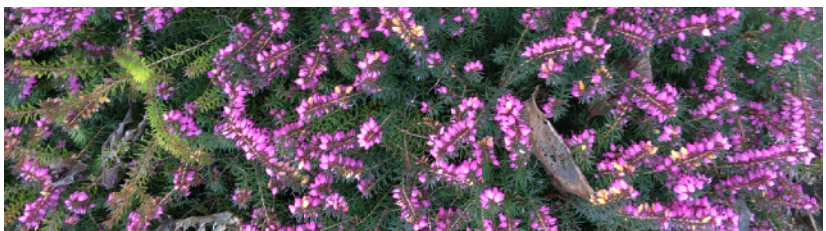
Getting excited?



From your Executive

Happy New Year fellow community gardeners. With this new year comes a host of new opportunities in and around the garden.

The Spring AGM is scheduled for Sunday February 24th, from 10:00 - 12:00. Traditionally, starting at 09:30 we have a seed swap as people sign in. As we currently have no one to organize it, your exec is considering canceling the swap this year unless someone volunteers to run this for all of us. Is that you? It would not take a lot of time, it is a great opportunity to meet some of your fellow gardeners while enhancing the palette of your garden. Please do consider it, and let us know [@info](mailto:info@maplecommunitygarden.ca).





Visioning

The BC Council of Garden Clubs is holding a Visioning Workshop on Saturday, February 23 at the Guildford Library in Surrey. While space is limited to 30 people, they want as broad of input as possible, so if you can't make it, you can email them your thoughts. Check it out; for yourself, for all of us.



Reorganizing Section 5

Suzanne has come through for us, and the composers have been removed. The next step is to move the mason bee house to the outside of the fence (yes, your chair just wrote that, please keep it to yourself...). Anyone care to shepherd this one for us? It's *really not* a big one, and you *do* know how to get in touch with us...

You should receive the agenda for the Spring AGM in a few weeks' time. When you do, please take the time to look it over - so as to expedite the proceedings - as well as to note the important dates for the upcoming season.

Speaking of opportunities to serve, last newsletter, there was an ask for some new blood on the board. The response was as loud as floating in deep space, far from any spacecraft or other object. We need some people to step up, it really is that simple. And frankly, while "yes, it does take some time, effort and thought", it is not onerous if one is organized, and is fairly well paid through gestures of gratitude and overall appreciation of our shared urban space. Thank you for reading this, and please do consider joining your exec.

And now, for your volunteering pleasure is The Dirty Job™. We've an - ongoing - offer for compost. It is from a horse farm out in the Southlands and described as being "comprised of horse and goat manure plus urine soaked fine pine bedding. It has lots of worms that work the compost. It is lovely for gardens and top dressing grass." Over the phone, your chair was told that it warms the soil beautifully and that putting a layer on top now will speed up the season for you. If anyone is interested, let us know and we will put you in contact with them. Even better, it would be amazing if someone has a truck and would like to volunteer to get the community a truckload. Know that there is help available to load it if desired.

Nine. Nine plots. Nine plots are potentially available, and there are still people on the waitlist - which as you may recall was closed for a few years as we reorganized. Such a demand exemplifies how lucky each and everyone of us are to have our plot, to be a contributing member to our community. Your exec encourages you to reflect on that, to not take it for granted, to appreciate that we all need to contribute to maintain, grow and evolve it.

With a vision of working together on a sunny day soon, we wish you a wonderful January and, on the second of February, a spectacular Groundhog Day; what are you hoping for?

In peace,

Your Maple Community Garden Exec