

Maple Community Garden Mail

Organic Urban Gardening

Kudos of change

It is with sadness that we've learned that after 20 years in our community garden, our dear master gardener Rosemary will be leaving us next spring as she is moving on to new adventures outside of the city. She promises to "come back to visit to check on us"; let's not let her down by allowing the commons to become overgrown or messy. Before leaving, she writes of her plans "to put some of my perennials I can't take with me up at the W. 6th street area we are trying to refurbish but need to wait for cooler weather. I will do this in my own time until I'm done....." If anyone would like to take advantage of a little more quality time with her, you might want to offer a hand. Thank you Rosemary - for all you have given of yourself.

Unfortunately, Rosemary's departure also leaves the Soup Kitchen in need of help. If anyone is looking for more opportunity to garden they should seriously consider coming on board. The Soup Kitchen has been a source of pride for us and it would make the loss of Rosemary even harder were it not to continue. For yourself, your community and in honour of all Rosemary has done for us over years we urge you to embrace this opportunity.



From your Executive

Welcome to the cool - and often wet - days of September 2019; the garden has exploded with life, is lush and full of delicious food. While it is joyous to see - and taste - we are seeing signs of mold on some of the squash plants as well as blight of some tomato plants. Please be sure to dispose of these in your city green bin so as not to spread disease throughout the garden.

Your Chair spent a lovely moment walking in the garden while being interviewed by UBC PHD student Hyeone Park. You might recall us asking you to take an online survey as it is to our collective benefit to have our efforts and community quantified so the city has data to show how important community gardens are. If you haven't yet taken the survey, please do find the time to do so by [clicking here](#). The survey will take just 15 minutes of your time and might even help you to see the community around you in a different light.



After our make-up work party on Saturday the 21st, there will be only one more work party this year on Saturday October, 20 @ 10:00 AM. These last work parties are very important as there is always a lot of clean up / prep for the winter, and we urge everyone to come out whether or not you have completed your required four.

You will no doubt soon be preparing your own bed for the winter. Please do your future self a favour and insure that the area surrounding your plot is as weed free as possible so that we do not have a nightmare on our hands in spring. Recall that caring for the exterior of your plot is your contractual obligation. (It has been brought to our attention that there is a particularly bad area of crabgrass on the Southside by Sections 2/3.)

Finally, your Exec has been busy preparing for the winter AGM this Sunday Sept. 22nd. You all should have received your AGM package by now, please make sure to look it over beforehand in order to expedite the meeting. One item for discussion is what to do with our compost bins that are regularly contaminated with inappropriate foliage as well as refuse. In the meantime, please remember that they are only to be used for clipped grasses with no weeds and deadheaded plant material that looks to be free from mildew. Thank you.

Rosemary leaving the garden underlines how important it is to have active members who strive to give to the greater community. Your Exec is conscious of the need for younger gardeners to commit to our commons on a deeper level so as to insure its longevity. Your elders won't always be here; don't miss an opportunity to learn from them while they are here and help you to prepare to be the elder yourself.

May we all always grow our gardens with peace in our hearts, your Maple Community Garden Exec.



maplecommunitygarden.ca



What to plant

Hardy salad greens like arugula, cress and corn salad can still be sown. Mustard greens for braising as well. Garlic planting is coming up. Please be honest and skip this season if you had any sign of rust on any allium this year. The health of our gardens depend on it.



Climate and Gardens

The BC Council of garden clubs fall AGM will be on Oc. 26th. (Early bird discount ends Sep. 30th.) The meeting will feature Dr. Richard Hebda who will be speaking on the topic of climate change and its impact on gardeners. On the topic of climate change, we humbly suggest that all of you join the upcoming Climate Strikes. Join youth from around the world (Sept. 27th, 1:00 PM City Hall) in demanding real action. Thank you in the name of children everywhere.