



Yellowknife Community Garden Collective

Spring 2004

Well the first day of spring came and went. We saw freezing temperatures and icy winds., but the new season is upon us and I imagine everyone is poring over seed catalogues, checking out websites, or already busy planting seeds available around town.

Membership Sign-up

We need to confirm who is returning before we start to allocate plots to new. Membership is \$5 per partner and plot fees are \$20 per plot. Should you wish to renew your membership, please **return your membership application, signed waiver form, and payment, to the membership co-ordinator by April 15.**

Please make cheques payable to the YCGC. Your membership and plot assignment will be confirmed as soon as possible, and you will be provided with receipt of payment and your membership card.

Please confirm your membership as soon as possible !! This will give new members some advance notice that they will be gardening, too.

Plot Allocation

As in years past, people are asked to pair up (min. 2 people per plot) in order to provide other Yellowknifers with the opportunity to garden. For returning members: if there are any changes to your gardening arrangements for this year (plot partner, do not want to keep same plot ...), please contact a site manager. Do so as soon as possible please — even before sending in your membership application form. This will help to avoid any confusion in confirming this year's gardening arrangements.

Food Security Plots

Procedures for the food security plots should remain the same as last year. Carrots and potatoes seem to be a good choice both for the gardeners and the groups receiving the food. Seeds and seed potatoes will be supplied through YCGC. The number of plots allocated for each type of produce will also be determined, and a sign-up sheet (first come, first serve) will be posted in the shed.

Charity Food Plots

One of the privileges and responsibilities of being a member of the Community Garden is the planting, tending and harvesting of a Charity Food Plot. Charity Food Plots are located in the centre of the community Garden area and the produce from these plots is for the exclusive benefit of a charity of your choice from the following list.

These charities have been canvassed and have indicated which vegetables they would like to receive. Choose the charity you would like to support and plant according to their request. Vegetable and potato seeds will be supplied to you. In order to ensure that each charity will benefit from the produce of the Community Garden, each charity will be assigned a certain number of plots. Sign up early to support the charity of your choice. Sign up sheets will be in the garden sheds along with the seeds for the Charity Food Plots.

Salvation Army
Abe Miller
Allison Mcateer
Avens Manor
Community Kitchen For Kids
Women's Centre
Yellowknife Food Bank



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Bylaws

A decision was made not to mail out the bylaws this year. If you require a copy, please contact any member of the Board and we will get a set to you.

Spring Social

Date: Tuesday, May 13

All members and people on waiting list are encouraged to attend! Information sheets about the YK Community Garden will be available. New and potential members can gather gardening tips and meet existing members.

This will be a potluck meal. Feel free to bring your favourite fresh vegetable recipes. **Volunteer sheets will be available for you to sign up and do your part to keep our garden collective active.**

Time: 7:00 to 9:00 pm

Location: YK Library Meeting Room.

Orientation Day

Do you have questions about how the community garden runs? Want to learn how to compost more effectively? Interested in the types of organic fertilizers or pest control which work well at our site? Would you like to learn the secrets of the fiddly gate locks?

Whether you're a beginning gardener or have been with the garden since it began, this session will give you a good overview of how the garden functions. It's also a good chance to ask questions or share some of the valuable information which you've learned from past years. Bring your family and friends.

Saturday, June 7 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm.

Board Members

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Lisette Self | Chair/Site Manager |
| Margot Jennings | Vice Chair |
| Laurie Morton | Secretary/Archivist |
| Shelly Johnson | Membership Co-ordinator |
| Laurin Trudel | Liason Co-ordinator |
| Joyce Gilchrist | Compost Director |
| Daphne Landry | Resources Co-ordinator |
| Laurie Lapka | Publicity |
| Orest Watsyk | Site Manager |
| Pat Booth | Asst. Site Manager |
| Murray Wick | Asst. Site Manager |



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Membership Obligations

Please Note: Effective this year all volunteers are asked to print their names on the “sign in” sheets at each volunteer event. These sheets will be available from the Site Co-ordinators. The sheets may be tallied at the end of the season to evaluate the level of participation from the Collective Membership. So, be sure to sign up at each event you participate at!!

All members shall:

- ❖ Agree to participate in person or by proxy at the AGM and other society activities
- ❖ Agree to and sign a liability waiver
- ❖ Use organic gardening methods in the food security and personal plots
- ❖ Maintain their allocated personal and food security plots
- ❖ Use water conservation methods
- ❖ Use water for garden purposes only
- ❖ Follow garden etiquette

Etiquette

- ❖ Assist in the maintenance of the garden site, the perimeter of the site under the Adopt-a-Street program, and other community garden plots as required
- ❖ Organize with their partners, the planting, tending, harvesting and distribution of produce from the food security plots
- ❖ Ensure children and guests are supervised at all times

Security

- ❖ Lock the garden site and shed when leaving the site unattended
- ❖ Not share the lock combination with non-members
- ❖ Report any problems to the Site Manager as soon as possible

Gardening Practice

- ❖ Use only organic fertilizers and pest controls
- ❖ Dispose of weeds and diseased or infested plots off-site — do not compost
- ❖ Keep paths clear of equipment and materials such as weeds and rocks
- ❖ Manually water the garden plots using watering cans, not hoses and sprinklers

Equipment

- ❖ Maintain all communal equipment in good repair
- ❖ Ensure tools and equipment are secured in shed before leaving garden site
- ❖ Ensure water tap is completely turned off before leaving garden site

Garbage

- ❖ Remove own garbage from site. The garbage bin in shed is to be used for non-biodegradable garbage only



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Gardening References

Below is a list of books and websites related to organic gardening. By no means is this an exhaustive list but it is a good start to kick off this years gardening season.

Books at the Yellowknife Public Library – Under the Non-Fiction Section # “635” there are a number of gardening books.

Bennet, Jennifer. The Harrowsmith Northern Gardener. Call Number: 635.0971BEN
ISBN # 0-9200656-22-6

Briggs, Chriss D. Plant Magic: For Northern Gardeners. Call Number: 635.952BRI

Campbell, Stu. The Mulch Book: A Complete Guide For Gardeners. Call Number: 635.04CAM
ISBN# 0-8266-659-2

Carr, Anna et al. Rodales Chemical-Free Yard and Garden: The Ultimate Authority in Successful Organic Gardening Call Number: 635.04584ROD, ISBN #0-87857-951-6

Ellis Barbara W. and Bradley, Fern Marshall. The Organic Gardener's Handbook of Natural Insect and Disease Control: A Complete Problem Solving Guide to Keeping Gardens and Yards Healthy Without Chemicals. Call Number: 635ORG, ISBN # 0-87596-124-4

Shields, Dinah and Edwina von Baeyer. The Reluctant Gardener: A Beginner's Guide to Gardening in Canada. Call Number: 635.9SHI, ISBN# 0-394-22233-4

Websites

The City Farmer - <http://www.cityfarmer.org/>

They advise "...Sit up, bear with us as we add to this site week by week and listen to the birds singing in our garden." From this beginning, the website has developed into a political horticulture with topics ranging from growing food to love at the garden site. Information for the Yellowknife Community Garden can be found at this site at: <http://www.cityfarmer.org/yellowkn98.html>

You Grow Girl! - <http://www.yougrowgirl.com/>

The self-described site as the "indie rock" of gardening is loaded with the – how to, columns, features and forums – for all your garden needs. There is even a section for gardener's art! A fertile site that is user friendly and definitely worth bookmarking!

I Can Garden - <http://www.icangarden.com/>

A Canadian website, seemingly out of Alberta, contains information for the beginner and professional alike. There is a particularly good section on links to such things as garden lore, herb gardening, seed exchanges etc...

All of these sites are active with plenty of links and information for every gardener.