

<p>Section/Number: Healthy Eating Policy – 02</p>	<p>Approval Date: (DD/MM/YY)</p>
<p>Subject: Community Garden Policy</p>	<p>Amendment Dates:</p>
<p><u>Policy</u></p> <p>A Community Garden (on Municipally owned property) is a small-scale site that is operated by an individual, residents or a group within the community. Community gardens offer opportunities to interact with our neighbors, add beauty to a community, encourage environmental sustainability, and promote active living.</p> <p>Community gardens can benefit the community by offering seasonal produce which will increase the ability to offer fresh, healthy, low-cost food to community residents.</p> <p>Therefore, the <u>Community Government Name</u> will encourage, support and permit Community Gardens by donating green space within the community.</p>	
<p>Definitions</p> <p>N/A</p>	

Guidelines:

1. Community Gardens production of produce include:
 - a) Personal Use
 - b) Donating to local food causes (i.e. food bank or salvation army)
 - c) Generating revenue to reinvest in the Community Garden
 - d) Production of a floral or landscape display
 - e) Demonstration gardening or other related instructional programming
 - f) For the distribution or sale of produce to local retailers
2. Community gardens can include vegetables, fruit, herbs, flowers and native or ornamental plants.
3. Community gardens encourage community building.
4. Community gardens provide additional access to opportunities for physical activity for all age groups.
5. Community gardens are a social gathering place for the community.
6. Community gardens increase education for participants including basic gardening skills, healthy eating, and an increase understanding of the local food system and sustainable food systems.
7. Improvement of the local environment through the preservation and productive use of green space.
8. Potential to engage with local businesses and provide support to your local food bank or Salvation Army by donating fresh produce.
9. Community garden must have a “common area” with shared upkeep (compost bin, water access, etc.)
10. Community gardens shall not carry out any major excavation or disturbance of the land. Small motorized equipment, such as a rototiller is permitted for annual soil turning and must be operated by an experienced individual.
11. Garden soil/top soil that is brought to site must be free of any foreign objects, contaminants, subsoil, roots, sods, rocks or other unwanted materials.
12. Use of herbicides and pesticides in community gardens shall be regulated in accordance to Territorial Legislation.

Attachments

Community Garden SMP

Physical Activity SMP

References

<http://www.halifax.ca/legislation/adminorders/documents/2014-09-OP.pdf>

<http://www.halifax.ca/rec/documents/CommunityGardenHandbook2016.pdf>

<https://www.foodbankscanada.ca/getmedia/de53293a-2fc3-4e42-82e6-60da8fcb2558/Community-Gardens-Toolkit-v2.pdf.aspx>