



Sundre Community Garden Responsibilities & Guidelines

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Sundre Community Garden

Greenwood Neighbourhood Place



Goals

Gardening is a wonderful way to increase access to healthy, great tasting, and affordable food while promoting physical activity. These spaces allow community members the opportunity to plan, grow and share their produce with their family and friends. The community garden will provide an opportunity for seniors to grow their own food and to mentor youth. By partnering with school and library programs, the garden can be an important resource for education.

About

In April 2014, Greenwood Neighbourhood Place received \$25,000 for the Sundre Community Garden project from the *New Horizons for Seniors Program*, funded by the Government of Canada. The funding enables local seniors to build a community garden in Sundre, allowing them to share their gardening skills with Sundre residents of all ages. GNP was also provided \$3000 by Alberta Health Services through the *Thrive for Wellness Program*.

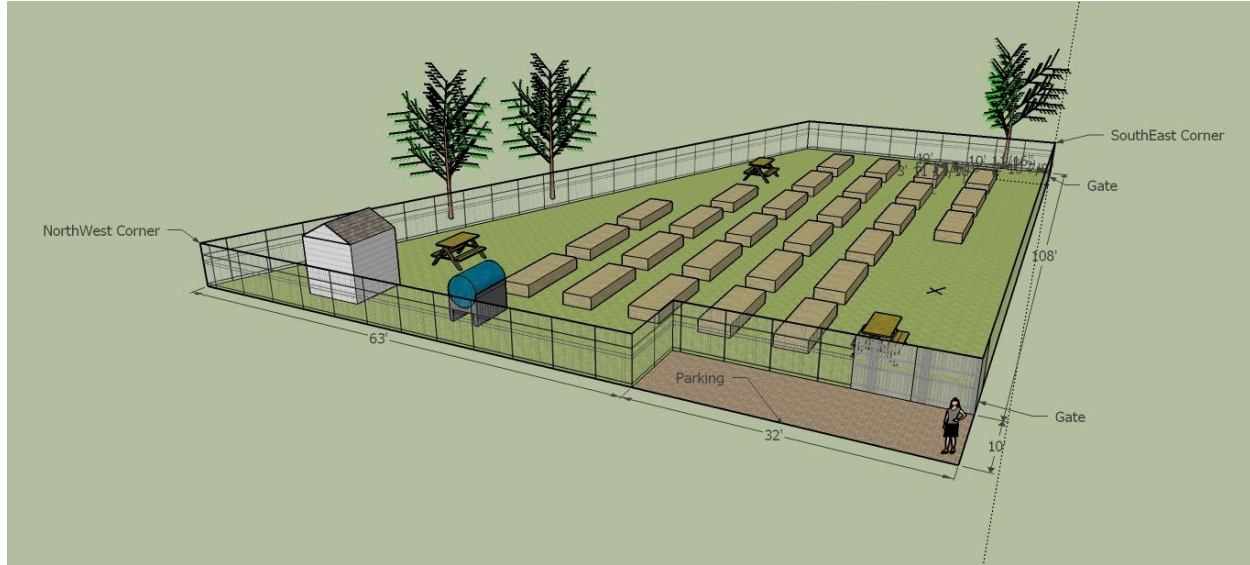
A Committee was established to oversee the project development. It was comprised of Sundre residents, Town of Sundre Council and Administration representatives, Alberta Health Services officials, a nutritionist, and a GNP project coordinator.

Site Information

AHS' Sundre Hospital Administration generously offered the Sundre Community Garden project a small site directly north of the main entrance parking lot. The plot of land met all of the SCG Committee's selection criteria which includes: proximity to seniors' facilities, recreation, pathway systems, and schools; adjacent residents and their subsequent approval; lighting; parking; street visibility; and water availability.

The site includes garden boxes, a water source, tree and shrub plantings, a garden shed, a six foot fence, and a small rest area. The enclosure will remain unlocked and available to the public.





Plot Allocation

There are 28 plots available for allotment. Garden boxes are 4' by 12' (20" tall). Gardeners apply for a plot by filling out the registration form and paying the required fee of \$25. Gardeners will be notified when plots have been assigned. A maximum number of 5 plots can be allocated per person/organization/business. If more plots become available all interested parties will be notified.

Returning gardeners from Sundre will have priority registration until December 31st. Every effort will be made to accommodate new gardeners and accommodate all requests for beds.

Plot assignments will be sent as soon as weather permits, applications forms are signed, and monies received.

Plot Allocation Procedure - Priority

1. Committee Members (same bed option)
2. Returning Gardeners (problem free) (same bed option)
3. New Applications – Seniors, Families
4. New Applications
5. Donated Beds
6. Returning Gardeners (problems)

Schedule of Operations

January 1 – April 30	Plot registration open for new gardeners.
May 1	Group notification sent (email, phone) for plot assignment. Gardeners requesting more plots (than max. 5) will be contacted.
May TBA	Site orientation meeting and water schedules posted.
May TBA	Planting begins!
June 10	Planting deadline. Unused plots will be reassigned to waiting list.
October TBA	Plot clean up and winter preparations completed.
December 31	Last day for returning gardeners to register.



Gardening Responsibilities & Courtesies

Ensuring that all gardeners have the same expectations and commitments to the garden will guarantee that the community garden is available for generations of Sundre residents! Please read the following points closely.

General

1. The garden should be a safe place for the community, children and other gardeners. Do not bring anything that will compromise the safety of the garden.
2. Verbal harassment or offensive remarks towards gardeners, staff, Committee members and/or landowners will result in immediate dismissal from the garden. No refund will be provided.
3. No smoking or alcoholic beverages are permitted in the garden.
4. Normal wear and tear of equipment is recognized, any deliberate physical or destructive damage to property or equipment will be the financial responsibility of the gardeners.
5. Any produce from a dismissed gardeners plot will be donated to charity.
6. Harvest only your own produce, even if it looks like the produce needs to be harvested.
7. Notify neighbours and the Sundre Community Garden Committee about bug infestations and vandalism.
8. Maintenance of common spaces within the garden is the mutual responsibility of all gardeners. The entire area must be kept free of weeds, debris, litter, etc.
9. Individual storage equipment is not permitted on site. The raised beds will require minimal tools. If the plot holder requires storage please contact the Sundre Community Garden Committee to make arrangements to share the storage shed.
10. Family members and friends are always welcome, but please ensure you supervise young children so they do not disturb other boxes.
11. The Sundre Community Garden Committee discourages plot holders from bringing their pets to site. Pets must be on a leash and be cleaned up after if they have to be brought to site.
12. Plot holders must park only on the garden side of the street only and NOT in front of any residential house(s). Violators will be warned and their membership revoked.
13. Plot holders must contribute 1 volunteer hour for each spring, mid-summer, and fall volunteer work bee. All best efforts will be made to coordinate work bees with volunteer availability.

Planting, Sowing, & Harvesting

14. Please ensure that sprawling or tall crops do not interfere with other plots.
15. Please ensure stakes, trellis and other fastening materials do not exceed 5 feet in height (from ground level).
16. No perennial plants may be left in the garden over the winter. Exceptions will be made for plants requiring fall sowing and returning gardeners.
17. Corn stalks, sunflowers, diseased plant material and weeds that have gone to seed must be placed in the compost bins immediately. If a gardener does not clean up their plot, it will be cleaned up for them prior to tilling and they will be billed \$15/hour.
18. Please leave and spread out other vegetative material that can be worked into the soil.

Maintenance

19. Water is available from the large holding tank and rain barrels. Water costs are included with your membership. Please be mindful of water usage.
20. **The addition of external soil or compost in to your garden box is not permitted. Soil and compost is available for purchase through the Sundre Community Garden Committee. Contact us if you have further concerns.**

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21. Garden boxes must be clean and mostly weed-free. All non-vegetative garbage must be taken home with the gardener. Please dispose of vegetative material in compost bins.
22. **** (New 2017) **** Please use the 'in-use' compost bin. It is identified by a ribbon.
23. **** (New 2017) **** Please chop up vegetative compost before placing in the bin. Feel free to turn the compost if required.
24. Please use organic controls/pesticides where possible. Consult the Sundre Community Garden Committee if you have further concerns.
25. Please use compost materials for fertilizing where possible. Consult the Sundre Community Garden Committee prior to using fertilizers.
26. In the case of a prolonged absence, gardeners must ensure that they ask another gardener, friend or family member to take care of their garden plot. The Sundre Community Garden Committee encourages plot holders to maintain their plot(s) weekly.

Shed Access ** (New 2017) ******

27. An access code for the current year will be provided for the garden shed to store tools. Please keep tools in a bucket and neatly stored within the shed.
28. Use of other gardeners' tools and/or SCG equipment is not permitted.
29. Sharing the code to non-SCG members is not permitted and will result in your garden box being immediately revoked.

Failure to Comply

30. A weed control frame (4' x 4') will be supplied in each of the garden tool sheds. If there are more than 12 weeds within the frame, gardeners will be subject to a written notice of violation.
31. Gardeners who do not maintain their plots will receive a written notice of violation with a set date for improvement. Failing to maintain a clean plot, will result in a fee of \$15 per hour billed to the gardener for plot clean up, and/or your garden box being immediately revoked.

Committee Information

If you are interested in participating on the Sundre Community Garden Committee, please contact us by November 30 through any method listed in the contact information.

Contact Information

Greenwood Neighbourhood Place
LOCATION: #5 96 2nd Avenue NW, Sundre AB

Executive Director: Marita Stermann
PHONE: 403 638-1011 FAX: 403 638-1012
MAIL: PO Box 1846, Sundre AB T0M 1X0
EMAIL: info@mygnp.org
WEBSITE: <http://www.mygnp.org>

Thank you for your interest in the Sundre Community Garden!
We look forward to gardening with you!

"The most important word in community garden is not garden." *Jack Hale*