

# GREENEST CITY FUND



## Greenest City Neighbourhood Small Grants Grant Recipients for 2013

### Neighbourhood: Cedar Cottage, Hastings and Renfrew

#### **Blueberry Patch Project (\$450)**

This project took an under-utilized city park space and planted a neighbourhood blueberry patch. By growing berries, the project increased public awareness about the importance of growing food in the city.

#### **BYOB-Build Your Own Box (Welwyn Street-style) (\$450)**

This project helped households make raised garden boxes to be placed in yards or in boulevards on the street. It also encouraged residents to participate in neighbourhood activities together and take pride in their street.

#### **Chelsea Park Senior's Residence Garden Club (\$400)**

Helped seniors grow gardens in the Chelsea Park area and provided them with stimulation and exercise while beautifying their home and neighbourhood.

#### **Chester's Field Community Orchard (\$200)**

The property adjoining Chester Field has pear and apple trees that do not bear any quality fruit. This grant brought a master pruner from Arbutus Pruning to teach residents how to care for and revive the trees.

#### **Commercial Drive Coop Community Mapping and Engagement Project (\$200)**

This project created a map of the Vancouver East Housing Cooperative and surrounding community.

#### **Community Cargo Bikes Pilot Project (\$450)**

This project helped build a fleet of five cargo-capable transport bikes. The bikes are housed by Kickstand Bicycle Resource Centre, and are available to community members for a small yearly service fee.

**Community Food Celebrations (\$450)**

Four community celebrations brought members from across the community together to celebrate local food and food practices.

**Community Garden at Penticton and East Pender (\$250)**

Helped fund the upkeep of a neighbourhood garden.

**Creating Bee-Friendly Corridors (\$450)**

Native insect pollinators are limited by their size to how far they can travel to collect nectar and pollen from neighborhood trees, shrubs and flowers. The addition of more insect-friendly habitat could enhance and link existing populations. This project helped a group of residents contact established community groups in the area to determine their interest in additional bee-friendly habitats.

**Dinner in the Garden (\$450)**

This project enabled Cedar Cottage Community to host a community outdoor dinner at their garden site. The dinner brought community members together to boost interest in gardening in the neighbourhood.

**DIY on The Drive: Sustainable Urban Living Mini-workshops (\$450)**

This was a series of do-it-yourself workshops, taught by neighbours for neighbours. The workshops were designed to increase sustainability and food security, and reduce the use of toxic chemicals in the home and garden.

**Garden Boxes for Local Food Growth (\$450)**

This grant is to build community gardening beds to grow local indigenous and non-indigenous foods and encourage the community to get involved in sustainable gardening.

**Hastings-Sunrise Community Food Network - Mobile Information Station (\$450)**

The Hastings Sunrise Community Food Network brought together community members who were working on food-related projects. Participants shared best practices and resources, and provided mutual support to create a vibrant food community in the neighbourhood.

**Ladybug Community Garden Expansion (\$450)**

This project raised the low-lying plots in the Ladybug Community Garden to help increase the garden's food production.

**Landscaping the Boulevard Along Dumfries Street (\$450)**

This project helped landscape the Boulevard at the intersection of 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Dumfries Street.

**Make Meadows, Not Lawns - Transforming Your Yard Into Something Living (\$450)**

This project encouraged the planting of native wild flowers to bloom in green spaces and help neighbours transition away from traditional manicured lawns to improve the diversity of plants in the neighbourhood.

**Native Plant Garden at CROWS Point (\$250)**

This project improved the western portion of CROWS Point Community Garden by adding native plants and building edging around the garden beds.

**Pollinator Pathway (\$200)**

This project encouraged neighbours rather than growing grass, to grow more native plants to attract pollinators.

**Secret Garden Path (\$300)**

This grant funded the upkeep of a laneway garden located on Semlin Street.

**The Lakehouse Urban Permaculture Project (\$450)**

This project increased public knowledge of how to grow food cheaply on an average city lot through permaculture techniques, reducing waste and reusing materials. The project created an exemplary small-scale growing space and hosted workshops open to the community on a variety of topics focused on urban agriculture.

**The Learning Garden Part 2 (\$450)**

In 2012, this grant funded part two of research into the type of information novice gardeners would need to successfully plan and maintain a garden. The goal was to use technology to provide an additional layer of information that gardeners would be able to access about specific plants online. The second phase is building a prototype of the plant tags to obtain feedback from novice gardeners.

**The Sustainable Living Project (\$300)**

This project helped create an alternate healing and education centre. The space is also used to teach a variety of disciplines geared toward sustainable change.

**Vegetable Garden and Bee Farm (\$250)**

This project turned a front yard into an organic vegetable garden (one that included bees). The owners held an open house for their neighbours to encourage healthy eating and share their gardening knowledge.

**Ward Community Garden (\$450)**

This project built five new raised garden plots to start a community garden at Ward Memorial Church. The garden grew vegetables, herbs and berries, which were added to meals prepared in the church kitchen. Garden plots were also offered to neighbourhood groups to grow their own food.

## **Neighbourhood: Strathcona, Raycam and Carnegie**

### **Admiral Seymour School Garden (\$500)**

This project helped restore garden plots in the Admiral Seymour School Garden. The garden offers urban children the chance to learn about food in a hands-on way.

### **Building the Woodland Park Community Garden (\$350)**

A group of volunteers built a community garden in East Vancouver's Woodland Park. The garden contributes to the food security of the neighbourhood and has become a place for learning, sharing and making community connections.

### **Community Clean-up and Graffiti Paint-out to *Keep Vancouver Spectacular* (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) (\$500)**

The Grandview-Woodland Community Police Centre and the Britannia Teen Centre organized a community clean-up and graffiti paint-out for the alleyway between Commercial Drive and Britannia, from William Street to Venables Street.

### **Community Garden (\$250)**

This project helped fund community garden space for edible plants in a transitional housing building on East Hastings Street.

### **Community Garden at Hugh Bird Residence (\$500)**

This project established a community garden space on the back patio of Hugh Bird Residence on Cordova.

### **Composting and Garden (\$500)**

This project helped repair a rooftop garden and start a composting bin at a building on Powell Street.

### **DIY Garden Fair (\$250)**

This project created a Sustainable Garden Fair. Professionals, organizations and small businesses delivered workshops and presentations on topics ranging from growing vegetables to composting to saving water.

### **Edible Garden (\$500)**

This project created raised beds around a co-op building to grow edible plants. More than 20 children helped with planting and maintaining the garden.

### **Free Green Gardening Workshops at Woodland Community Garden (\$350)**

This project funded a series of free workshops to get people involved with a new community garden in the neighbourhood while teaching some fundamental skills in organic gardening.

### **Growing with Lego (\$500)**

This project funded an event designed to get kids excited about growing food. Held at the Strathcona Community Centre, kids created their own planters.

**Healthy Cooking With Local Produce (\$1,000)**

This project created an ongoing cooking program for inner city children that taught healthy eating choices with locally grown produce.

**Mavis McMullen Children's Garden (\$300)**

In 2012, a greenest city grant helped create the 'bones' of a rooftop garden for low-income families in the building. In 2013, funds were granted to expand the garden and create a functional children's food garden.

**Monthly "Re-skilling" Workshops (\$600)**

This project created a set of "re-skilling" workshops for community members, with a focus on growing vegetables, repairing clothes, knitting, preserving vegetables, bike maintenance, keeping chickens and seed saving.

**Seniors Walk for Health (\$400)**

This project targeted seniors who are less mobile. It introduced more outdoor physical activities to reduce isolation, enhance social skills and ultimately to improve the health of participants.

**Strathcona Beekeeping (\$475)**

This project funded the purchase of a honey bee hive for the Cottonwood Community Garden. Half of the honey produced from the hive went to the Strathcona Food Bank and the other half supported community beekeeping at the Cottonwood Community Garden.

**Strathcona Harvest Festival Community Kitchen (\$300)**

The Strathcona Harvest Festival Community Kitchen brought community members together to shop and cook locally sourced, sustainably produced food for sharing at the Strathcona Harvest Festival.

**Sunshine Patch Volunteer Work Parties (\$400)**

The Sunshine Patch is a children's garden on the grounds of the Strathcona Community Centre, which is shared by the Centre and Lord Strathcona Elementary School. This project maintained the safety, cleanliness and upkeep of the garden throughout the year.

**The Eastside Women's Green Machine (\$500)**

This was a series of workshops that taught attendees how to make soaps (for laundry and hair), baby products (powder and shampoo) and massage oils.

**Truck Farm (\$500)**

True to its name, the Truck Farm is a pick-up truck with a garden in the box. It has been very popular on the streets of Vancouver and at events such as the PNE, the Strathcona Festival, farmer's markets and craft fairs. In 2013, the truck owners expanded educational programming in schools, community centres and daycares to engage more people about the importance of growing their own food.

**Walkin', Stoppin', Talkin' Eatin' (\$500)**

This project created a boulevard edible garden with edible flowers, carrots and herbs.

**Women's Garden (\$350)**

This project helped establish a small garden in Oppenheimer Park as a celebratory space for the women of the Downtown Eastside.

**Neighbourhood: West End****Let's Get Composting! (\$400)**

This project is aimed at staying ahead of the City's goal to recycle all organic waste by 2015. It helped implement a program to get residents of a 15-suite building composting.

**Bringing Gardeners Together (\$500)**

This project by the Downtown Intercultural Garden Society facilitated social interaction and fostered trust and understanding between people from diverse social groups by gathering for weekly informal meetings to discuss gardening topics. Gardening was the catalyst for communication and creating new connections between people.

**Bute Beautification 2013 (\$500)**

In 2012, this grant helped create a boulevard garden. In 2013, the project enhanced the garden and funded the purchase of additional edible plants, soil, and material to build walkways and appropriate signage.

**Cigarette Butt Recycling (\$500)**

This project helped in the ongoing effort to clean nearby streets, through an experiment to buy back cigarette butts. The project was very popular.

**Expanded Recycling at Panorama Place (\$300)**

In 2012, a CGNSG grant was used to expand a recycling program for a 146-unit high rise. A similar grant in 2013 covered the expenses involved in maintaining the program.

**Farmers Market Dinners (\$400)**

This project fed families who were attending the Weekend Family Practice. The food came from the Vancouver Farmer's Market.

**Green City Iranian Seniors (\$500)**

This project helped seniors to grow plants and vegetables on their balconies.

**Greenhouse Winterizing Project – PAL Community Garden (\$1,000)**

This project helped make an existing community greenhouse more energy efficient and accessible for senior and disabled residents.

**Jervis and Comox Traffic Circle/Corner Garden (\$1,000)**

This project revitalized the garden in the Jervis and Comox traffic circle.

**Kirtan Vancouver Green Team (\$800)**

This project helped a volunteer green team focus on green transportation and kitchen sustainable waste management, to make Kirtan Vancouver a green and sustainable event.

**Pacific Heights Rooftop Garden (\$1,000)**

A grant to the Pacific Heights Housing Cooperative funded a root-top garden.

**Rain Barrels for the Roof (\$500)**

The purchase of four rain barrels enabled the Coal Harbour Housing Coop to store water for the existing rooftop gardens.

**Seed Library (\$500)**

This project established a seed library for Mole Hill residents to supply seeds for growing organic vegetables and herbs.

**Square Foot Gardening: How to Seed, Grow, Harvest and Cook Nutritious Food (\$500)**

Square Foot Gardening is an easy to learn, efficient way to produce maximum amount of food on a minimum amount of space. This project built a raised garden for children and youth to seed, care for, and harvest the vegetables and herbs.

**The Herb Garden Project (\$1,000)**

This project built herb garden plots for pre-teen youth, staff and volunteers to promote intergenerational activities like urban gardening.

**Underbridge Gardens (\$500)**

This project maintained gardens located under and near the Burrard Street Bridge.

**Neighbourhood: Kitsilano****BEE-coming Leaders! Bee Keeping and Honey Making for Kids (\$1,000)**

This project created a Community Bee School for children so they can learn and teach others about bees. The Bee School includes three workshop/sessions that cover taking care of hives, extracting honey, and planting and growing a bee garden.

**Boulevard Vancouver Edible Gardens (Boulevard VEG) (\$750)**

In 2012, this grant helped build planter boxes for families in the community to grow vegetables. The 2013 project expanded to include families who wanted to participate and get a planter box of their own.

**Digital Art in Tatlow Park (\$1,000)**

This project builds on a project funded in 2012 where artists created and developed new media and interactive digital video art installations, which were displayed in Tatlow Park. The works drew attention to the local sounds and history of the park.

**Frisch Farms (\$1,000)**

This project supported urban agriculture through the green streets program by engaging the public and the city to transform public spaces into gardens.

**Green Spaces Rejuvenation in Kitsilano (\$650)**

This project helped rejuvenate the public spaces and public access infrastructure that surrounds the Cypress Community Garden.

**Growing From the Ground Up (\$500)**

This project helped re-establish the World in a Garden – an urban farm and community garden project that needed to relocate. The grant also funded a short series of workshops that also functioned as work parties to get the new site up and running.

**Mapping Indigenous Food Sources (\$1,000)**

The Food Mapping Project is a participatory community project that identified locations of wild blueberries, indigenous edible plants, community gardens, fruit-producing trees and vegetable gardens. The location of these potential food sources was recorded and made available on a website. The project provided a way to get outdoors, get exercise, and contribute important data about possible food sources at the same time.

**Planning for Community Food Resilience on the Westside (\$1,000)**

This project built on past and current community food resiliency work by organizing and hosting a public event for neighbours to plan how communities can create more neighbourhood food resiliency.

**Planting Trees and Garden Outside Jericho Hill Centre (\$500)**

This project created a garden space outside the Jericho Hill Centre. Students, parents and teachers at Pacific Spirit School helped install and maintain the garden, which offers an educational opportunity for students as well.

**RoundAbout Kits (\$1,000)**

This project was a series of four workshops to share ideas and resources to enhance Green Streets Gardens (traffic circles and corner bulges) and encourage bee, bird and butterfly habitats and community connectedness in Kitsilano.

**The Rain Barrel Project (\$960)**

This project promoted the use of rain barrels by providing education on the benefits of re-using domestic rainwater and distributing barrels to those willing to take part in the pilot.

**Urban Bee Collaborative (\$1,000)**

This project expanded the Urban Bee Collective (a 2012 project). The collective relocated to a more accessible garden location and created a fenced enclosure for the hives.

**Neighbourhood: Mount Pleasant-Little Mountain****Bin Share (\$350)**

Bin Share is a food scrap collection initiative that used empty spaces found in the green bins of surrounding neighbours. Neighbours would communicate that their green bins are available for sharing by tying a green ribbon to the bin's hinge. The project created a website to explain the project, log testimonials, concerns and FAQs.

**Cambie Demonstration Garden (\$500)**

This demonstration garden has been operational for three years. The 2013 project engaged the community in growing healthy, organic, and edible food in a small space by expanding and revitalizing the garden.

**Community Sewing Den (\$400)**

This project taught community members how to sew, make and alter clothes.

**Corner Garden: Ontario and 17<sup>th</sup> (\$600)**

This project turned a small grass space into two raised beds; one to grow bee-friendly plants and flowers, and edible flowers; and the other for seasonable vegetables.

**Creekview Housing Cooperative Food Garden (\$780)**

This project created a food garden at the Creekview Housing Cooperative for 105 members and their families. Workshops were also offered on food garden planning, garden care and food preservation.

**Edible Lawn Project (\$700)**

This project expanded a small community garden at a house in Mount Pleasant. The Victorian home houses a collective of young artists and professionals looking for ways to live cleaner and greener together.

**From Seeds to Solar (\$200)**

This project funded two components — a workshop that taught participants how to use a solar cooker at home, and a seed and harvest swap.

**Garage Rooftop Food Garden and Bee Hive Extravaganza (\$850)**

This project, already in its third year, houses two bee hives on a rooftop and two chickens in the backyard. The 2013 grant funded the expansion of the plant gardens, to provide free food to as many people as possible in the neighbourhood.

**Introduction to Beekeeping and Flower Photography Walk (\$300)**

This project was designed to increase awareness and understanding of bees in the community. After taking an introductory workshop on beekeeping, participants went on a flower and bee photography walk.

**Irrigation for Garden Pathway -- 1300 block E. 6th Avenue (\$800)**

This project installed an irrigation system to restore the block long "Green streets" garden pathway.

**Ladybug Community Garden expansion (\$700)**

This project rehabilitated low-lying plots in the Ladybug Community Garden to increase their ability to produce food.

**Little Diggers Garden Club (\$272)**

This project created a Kids Club in the Brewery Creek Community Garden. Children worked with volunteers to establish their own mini garden plot.

**Main Street Seed Library (\$560)**

This project enhanced the Local Main Street Seed Library with seed box libraries, seed saving information, and food growing information. The Seed Library is a resource for local residents, and is available to the public for free.

**Mason Bees and Food planting (\$700)**

This project enabled families in the Mount Pleasant neighbourhood to purchase and mount Mason bee 'cottages'. The project provided each family with a Mason bee life cycle information sheet. Participating children could plant food crops and/or wildflowers in the portable planters.

**My Green Neighbourhood (\$500)**

This project created a neighbourhood garden to grow local food.

**Neighbour Savour 4 (\$750)**

This project, called "Neighbour Savour," organized a free, near-zero waste community potluck for 300 people. The intent was to share food and encourage neighbours to use home grown and/or locally sourced ingredients. The potluck was organized with the help of Village Vancouver "Main Street Neighbourhood" team.

**Neighbourhood Roots (\$500)**

This project created a community garden to serve as an outdoor classroom for individuals or groups to discover the joy of growing their own food.

**Our Edible Boulevard (\$870)**

Over the past decade, residents of St Catherine's Street between 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Avenues have been gradually replacing existing sod boulevards with gardens full of perennials and indigenous plants. Residents used the 2013 grant to turn over more boulevard space to food bearing plants.

**Seed Bank and Healthy/Medicinal Herbal Plants for Neighbours (\$560)**

This project, held during Mount Pleasant Day celebrations, supplied 200 small trays of various medicinal/healthy herbs and seeds to residents during the event.

**Transition Skills Workshop Series (\$600)**

This project introduced neighbourhood residents to activities they could do at home to reduce their socio-economic and environmental impact. The workshops were held at Little Mountain Neighbourhood House and covered areas such as food growing, preservation, consumption and waste reduction.

**Urban Beautification of Alleyways (\$250)**

This project helped create flower gardens in the alleyway one block east of Main Street (between 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Avenues).

**Wood-Cycling (\$500)**

This project was designed to change the perception of how wood waste can be used in both the private and commercial sector. By partnering with small-scale, community-oriented businesses, organizers intended to design and develop artifacts using deconstruction wood waste as their sole material.

**Neighbourhood: South Vancouver****Bicycle Repair (\$500)**

This project was a seminar on how to repair bicycles. Organizers wanted to encourage people to consider alternative methods of transportation.

**Fencing For Community Garden (\$1,000)**

This project provided fencing around a new community garden.

**Enrich Community Relationships at Still Creek Community Garden (\$725)**

The Still Creek Community Garden has 93 plots, and accommodates more than 50 families. Next to the garden is an untended alley lot. This project focused on remedial possibilities for the lot, including: creating parking spaces; raised flower beds to beautify the space; and building a retaining wall to protect the garden.

**Grow Your Own Food Party (\$1,000)**

This project invited the community to come out and start growing their own gardens by providing assistance with seeds, soil and how-to information.

**Bike Repair Workshops (\$1,000)**

This project invited families, youth and all cyclists in the community to drop by for a bike tune-up. Knowledgeable volunteers were available with guidance and tools to help clean and adjust resident's bikes.

**Urban Garden Project (\$1,000)**

This project, organized by the Matheson Heights Housing Cooperative, raised awareness about the benefits of communal composting, fruit tree sharing, and growing vegetables. Members of the Coop were invited to a planning session that resulted in the planting of trees, assembly of composting bins, and construction of garden beds.

**Hoop House Project (\$1,000)**

This project involved building a hoop house over a community garden plot. The result — more food for the low-income housing community.

**Indoor Worm Composting (\$400)**

This project offered a worm composting workshop at Marpole Neighbourhood House.

**How to Farm Your Balcony (\$500)**

This project offered workshops on worm composting and growing food on balconies.

**Bringing "Hope the Whale" to Our Neighbours for a Sustainable Future Table at the South Hill Festival (\$500)**

This project, organized by Neighbours for a Sustainable Future, brought "Hope the Whale" to the South Hill Festival. "Hope" is a 25-foot white canvas whale created by First Nations, artists and conservation groups to give Vancouverites an opportunity to express their hope for an oil free coast. This interactive art installation has expanded into an opportunity for people to write messages about Hope for whatever they are passionate about.

**Still Creek Housing Co-op Urban Farming Project (\$450)**

This project, by the Still Creek Housing Cooperative, expanded their urban farming project.

**Green Space Enhancement (\$1,000)**

This project funded removal of invasive ivy; installation of a wood border, city compost; and planting native flowers and fruit trees.

**Neighbourhood Compost Project (\$500)**

This project helped create a neighbourhood compost project. Neighbours brought their compost in for points, which could be redeemed for rewards such as small gift cards. The more compost they brought in, the more points awarded.

**Community Yard Sale and Block Party (\$500)**

This project encouraged neighbours to sell, swap or give away goods they would otherwise not use.

**Planting Garden Circle (\$500)**

This project supported the greening of a traffic circle in South Vancouver.

**Many Hands Fruit Share (\$750)**

This project brings South Hill residents together annually during the harvest season to pick and share each other's fruit.

**Community Garden at Tecumseh School (\$700)**

This project added garden beds to the Organic Community Garden at Tecumseh School.

Greenest City Neighbourhood Small Grants support projects created by Vancouver residents that benefit their neighbourhood and support Vancouver's Greenest City Action Plan goals. The grants are part of the Greenest City Fund program, a partnership between the City of Vancouver and Vancouver Foundation. The goal of the Greenest City Fund is to help make Vancouver the greenest city in the world by 2020.

For more information about Greenest City Neighbourhood Small Grants or the Greenest City Fund, visit: [www.vancouverfoundation.ca/greenestcityfund](http://www.vancouverfoundation.ca/greenestcityfund)