



City of Minneapolis Community Gardens Program

A community garden is ...

A community garden is a lot where a group grows and maintains plants for food, for beauty, or both. Community gardens make Minneapolis more beautiful, provide healthy food and build community.

Minneapolis supports community gardens in its commitment to promoting access to good nutrition, improving the ecological footprint of the city, encouraging active and healthy living and providing spaces for human interaction, food production and beauty in our daily lives.

The pilot program

The Homegrown Minneapolis Community Gardens Pilot Program will make leases available for community gardens on City-owned lots. These lots were selected for their “non-buildable” qualities. This means that they will remain available for years of gardening even as the economy changes and redevelopment picks up. Lots are available first-come, first-served to qualifying groups. Experienced community garden groups may be eligible for three- to five-year leases, while groups gardening for the first time will start with one-year leases.

A qualifying group is a not-for-profit or a group with a not-for-profit sponsor. The garden will need to have liability insurance. Be ready to discuss the layout of the community garden, how it will be managed and how it will engage and benefit the community.

The process

You’ll begin with a consultation to go over the process and the program requirements. If you decide this program is right for your group, you’ll draw a site plan. Once it is reviewed and approved, you’ll complete an application checklist and set up an appointment for a lease consultation. If everything checks out, you’ll sign a lease.

Gardening Matters!

Gardening Matters is an important resource for you and a key partner in this pilot program. Call (612) 821-2358 or e-mail info@gardeningmatters.org, and make sure to visit www.gardeningmatters.org to take full advantage of the help available.

For more information

For more information about the Minneapolis community gardens pilot, call (612) 673-2597 or watch www.minneapolismn.gov/health/homegrown.