Eco-Opportunities

Lynde Creek Tributary Riparian and Terrestrial Planting. Say What! We have, with the help of local students, planted native trees, shrubs and perennials to restore the portion of the Lynde Creek Tributary that flows through our site. The native perennials will attract natural pollinators to the garden proper increasing yields. This area also includes two raised beds of native perennials for teaching purposes and an informal seminar area. Volunteers to help maintain and expand this area would be supervised by knowledgeable Garden Members.

Opportunity to participate in other eco-projects will be available as needed and funding is available to us. We are looking at developing water conservation and energy projects in the future.

Social Justice

Feed those in Need. Adopt a Plot. Half of the growing area (55 + plots) are allocated for growing food for those in need in our community. Take on growing a plot of fresh vegetables to be weighed and taken to various community agencies or shared with individuals and families referred to us. You would be responsible for the 4' x 30' plot for the garden season. Maintaining (weeding/watering etc.) and planting it if interested.

Have Questions? Ideas or other gifts to share (accounting, carpentry, tool sharpening, media, etc)

Please contact Mary Drummond – Coordinator 905 666 1497

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Volunteer Opportunities WHITBY AJAX COMMUNITY GARRES

SPRING GARDEN SET UP!

Help us wake up the garden from its long winter nap and get dressed for the growing season. There are several tasks that need all or as many hands on deck as possible; removing the covers from plot markers, renewing the garden paths, readying some of the food bank beds and some early planting, cleaning and setting up the garden chairs and tables, pulling out the rain barrels and setting up the new ones, prepping the flower beds to name a few. Last Saturday in April; first Saturday May.

Spring Set Up Projects

The Raspberry Beds need to be reined in! If you have the heart of those who tamed the wild west this job is for you. Experienced gardeners will provide the direction but extra hands are needed here. A couple of hours dependant on volunteer numbers. This is a garden prep task slated for April/May.

Sweet scents! Herbs can be healing and fragrant but only when they've been composted, planted and nurtured. This is a garden set up job slated for either last Saturday in April / first Saturday May for composting; end of May for Planting. Experienced gardeners will provide guidance. Approx. half day dependent on numbers. Volunteers also needed for ongoing maintenance; one hour per week.

Planting Time!

Help us plant seeds that will feed those in need. This requires many hands. No prior experience in planting? No worry. Experienced gardeners will show you how. All that is needed is a willing heart and old clothes. The number of planting dates is dependent on volunteer turnout. Volunteers who would love to try their hand at planting are welcome Saturdays during May/early June. You decide how long. Contact Coordinator.

Ongoing Garden Maintenance: These tasks are required on an ongoing basis throughout the summer season however they can be treated as a one time work event for a group or individuals who would like to help ensure a greater harvest for donation to those in need.

If you need some time on your knees this job is for you! However we do have several scuffle hoes to lift you up. Weeds rob the vegetables plants of nutrients needed to grow strong and produce an abundance fresh food for donation. This job is ongoing throughout the summer garden season however most needed through June and July and is a shared task. You determine your time (one time, biweekly, monthly). If you have time to offer please speak with the coordinator.

Water Efficiency is our motto. However help is still needed for periodic watering. Vegetable plants need 1" of water per week to thrive. How well we water will make a significant difference in the harvest we are able to donate. This is a shared task and volunteers can choose a Saturday convenient to their schedule. Alternate days may be arranged.

Do you enjoy mowing? We've got an acre for you to have fun with. Mowing is needed weekly – dependent on rainfall. No need to sign your life away. This task is a task shared with between 2-4 people through the garden season. April – November. Must have experience with motorized equipment.

Collect the fruits of our labour. Harvesting can be inspiring! All produce is picked and weighed on site twice per week. If you could help with one of these tasks either Saturday or Wednesday, daytime, speak with the coordinator. Commit for a week, once per month or season. End of June -November.

Special Projects

Join the Road Crew! This requires patching the gravel road as needed and maintaining the ditches that carry the water off the access road. This project would be best initiated at garden set up however early summer would also work. Needed - a couple of able bodied guys or gals. Time to complete would be dependant on number of volunteers. Needed in Spring with Summer and Fall checkups. Volunteering here could be one time offer.

Maintain the Natural Play Area. If you have skills or would like to help someone maintain or expand this are of our Garden Project please contact the coordinator.

Be a Gardening Angel! Gardening skill not required. Learn to garden from one of our experienced gardeners with decreasing ability by helping them with their garden. This is and ongoing seasonal task - growing relationships and skills to the benefit of both parties. Helping one less physically able gardener could be a shared task between two volunteers. The volunteer has to be matched with the gardener. Speak with coordinator for details.

Bedtime Clean Up! Help put the garden to bed: This is a job for many hands. Everything that came out in the spring must go away. Some tasks are: Draining the cisterns, washing out rain barrels, stacking tomato cages, clearing out garden waste, tidying flower beds, putting on soil amendments as needed, covering plot markers and other bedtime routine tasks – First and Second Saturday in November. Please contact Coordinator.