



## ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

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# Ontario Horticultural Association Community Garden Grant

The Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) encourages its member societies to create or contribute to community gardens whether urban or rural. The OHA will award a grant of \$500 each to two eligible societies to assist with the funding of a new community garden or the upgrading of an existing community garden.

### WHAT IS A COMMUNITY GARDEN?

For the purposes of this grant, a community garden is defined as a plot of land, either publicly or privately owned, that is used primarily to grow food for gardeners and/or the surrounding community. Either the whole space is communal or each member maintains a plot. Members may or may not pay a fee, but the garden must have a communal aspect such as shared maintenance, donations of produce to a local charity or social activities.

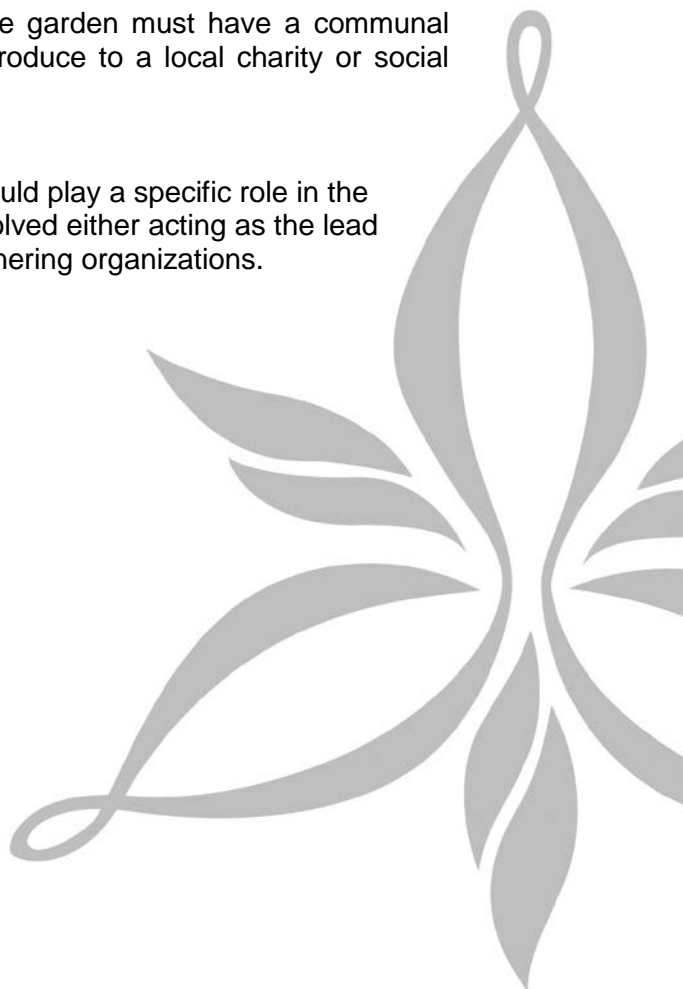
### WHO CAN APPLY?

A society, in good standing, applying for this grant should play a specific role in the creation or maintenance of the community garden involved either acting as the lead organization or as a member of a collaborative of partnering organizations.

The community garden must be:

- Accessible to the wider community
- Involve broad community participation
- Primarily focused on local food production

*Keeping Ontario Beautiful*



## WHAT CAN BE FUNDED?

### Eligible expenses:

- Tools, materials and equipment that are directly used in the completion of the project (raised beds, accessible planters, etc.)
- Site development costs and services
- Facilities and structures (washroom, composting area, water harvesting area, shade structure) that support the gardening activities of the members

## WHAT CANNOT BE FUNDED?

### Ineligible expenses:

- Operating or administration expenses associated with the development, implementation and completion of the project such as staff salaries, computer equipment, refreshments, travel costs, etc.
- Flower-only garden projects (See Special Project Grant), seeds or transplants, trees (see Tree Grant)
- Garden accessories or signage
- Marketing materials

## OVERALL CRITERIA FOR START-UP OR EXISTING COMMUNITY GARDENS

- Be non-profit
- Written permission of landowner to use the site
- Demonstrated garden plan which includes descriptions of how the garden will be developed/upgraded, how the garden will operate and how the garden will be maintained
- Garden plan should identify the role of the horticultural society applying for the grant and a list of other community organizations that are involved in the garden
- Certificate of liability insurance
- Garden budget

## HOW DO YOU APPLY?

**Interested societies can complete the application form and submit to your District Director who must submit the signed form to the OHA Awards Coordinator by February 28th.** Be sure to include copies of landowner's permission, garden plan, a certificate of liability insurance and your garden budget.

## REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

Successful garden grant applicants will be required to submit a completed report form along with itemized original receipts and photos of the completed project to the OHA Awards Coordinator before December 31<sup>st</sup> of the next year. For example, a grant awarded in 2015 must have its completed report with receipts and photos submitted by December 31<sup>st</sup> of 2016. Otherwise the OHA will assume that the community garden project has not been completed and the grant monies will be cancelled. **NO funds will be released without itemized receipts.**

***NOTE: Recipients of this award may only receive this award once.***