

2026-27 Community Garden Support Program Guide

Introduction

The Community Garden Support Program contributes to the Provincial Government's commitment to increase food self-sufficiency in Newfoundland and Labrador. The Department of Forestry, Agriculture and Lands is investing \$132,900 in 2026-27 to establish new community gardens and enhance existing community gardens throughout the province.

This investment enables not-for-profit organizations, community groups and schools to contribute to local food production and food self-sufficiency so communities benefit from increased access to fresh, nutritious, locally grown food.

The objective of the Community Garden Support Program is to increase:

- Food self-sufficiency
- Access to fresh food
- Consumption of fruits and vegetables
- Awareness and appreciation of the importance of local food production and the agriculture sector

Funding Eligibility

Eligible applicants must operate within Newfoundland and Labrador and be a:

- Not-for-profit community group or organization
- Municipality or local service district, or
- School

Home gardens at private residences are not eligible for funding.

The Community Garden Support Program will provide up to a maximum of \$750 per eligible applicant in the form of a non-repayable grant. Funding is limited to one grant per garden location. Preference will be given to entities that own/operate a community garden. If an eligible applicant does not own/operate the garden location, written permission to apply on the behalf of the owner/operator will be required.

Applicants will not be required to submit a claim or invoices but may be required to provide a brief update on use of funds and/or pictures related to garden activities.

Incorporated, not-for-profit applicants must be in good standing with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. Applicants may confirm their standing by checking with the Digital Government and Service NL [Registry of Companies](#). Applicants must agree that the name of the organization, use of project funds, and the amount of funding awarded will be released publicly.

Funding must be used exclusively for food production activities within a community garden. Activities such as flower beds, walking trails, picnic areas, playgrounds, parking areas, or other ineligible uses are not permitted.

To facilitate timely payment via direct deposit, successful applicants must be registered as active suppliers with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. This registration process is only required for new applicants who do not currently possess a valid supplier number, or for existing suppliers who need to update their banking or mailing information. If your organization's supplier information is already active and correct, no further action is required; however, all other applicants should independently ensure their details are current by completing the online supplier form at <https://www.gov.nl.ca/fin/supplier-form/>. Taking this step at the time of application will help prevent administrative delays in the event your project is approved for funding.

Eligible Project Costs

Eligible project costs include operating and minor capital costs required to establish new community gardens, or maintain and expand existing community gardens within Newfoundland and Labrador, including, but not limited to:

- Seed, fertilizer, limestone, mulch, soil and soil amendments
- Pots, trays, and other garden containers
- Plants and trees for fruit and vegetable production
- Soil testing analysis
- Small tools and equipment such as rakes, shovels, weeders, rototillers, lawn mowers, and sprayers
- Watering systems
- Construction materials for raised beds, cold frames and greenhouses
- Garden fencing and pathways
- Garden signage for agriculture awareness or educational purposes
- Composting systems for garden waste
- Equipment rental

- Labour
- Drainage systems and garden site development

Distribution of planters and/or items for home gardens are not eligible for funding.

Application submission

All applications must include a visual representation of the garden site. While existing gardens may submit a clear photograph, new garden projects are strongly encouraged to provide a map view (such as a screenshot from Google Maps) to assist the department in verifying the proposed location and site readiness.

Applications will be assessed by the Department of Forestry, Agriculture and Lands on a first-come, first-served basis. Additional information may be requested from applicants via email or phone calls. Applicants will be notified in writing of project funding decisions. For more information, please call: (709) 637-2979.

Community Garden Support Program applications must be submitted to the following email address:

CGSP@gov.nl.ca

Community Garden Support Program
Department of Forestry, Agriculture and Lands
Agriculture Business Development Division