

2023-24 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 Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture is investing \$100,000 annually 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;
- Increase access to fresh food;
- Increase consumption of fruits and vegetables; and
- Increase 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.

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 report on use of funds and project results. This report will be mailed to selected successful applicants following receipt of funding. Reports must be returned by October 31, 2023. Failure to submit this report may result in disqualification of future funding requests.

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.

Applicants must also agree that funding will be used for food production activities within a community garden, and will not be used for activities such as flower beds, walking trails, picnic areas, playgrounds, parking areas or other ineligible activities.

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

Application Submission

Applications will be assessed by the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture 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) 637-2474.

Applications must be submitted to the following email address:

CGSP@gov.nl.ca
Community Garden Support Program
Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
Agriculture Business Development Division