



Invitation to Municipalities

What is The Year of the Garden 2022?

The **Year of the Garden 2022** is the **Centennial Celebration of Canada's horticulture sector** marked with the 100th Anniversary of the Canadian Nursery Landscape Association. From January 1 to December 31, 2022, we will commemorate and celebrate Canada's rich garden heritage, celebrate today's vibrant garden culture, and create legacies for a sustainable future.

Planning is underway for a year of exciting activities, celebrations, special events and promotions that will take place in communities, schools, businesses, public gardens, and backyard gardens in all parts of Canada.

Join the Celebration and Proclaim 2022 as the Year of the Garden in Your Municipality

Join **Canada's Garden-Family** – thousands of plant growers, product manufacturers, retailers, landscape service providers, public gardens and garden experience providers, garden clubs and societies, and affiliated businesses – which will be sharing their knowledge and offering events to help Canadians **Live the Garden Life**.

The **Year of the Garden 2022** is a unique opportunity for your municipality to highlight and have a positive impact on priorities, such as:

- Post COVID Recovery
- Quality of Life
- Healthy Citizens
- Environmental Climate Action
- Economic Growth
- Enhance Cultural Vibrancy
- Reconciliation and Inclusivity
- Garden Tourism Destination positioning

The **Year of the Garden 2022 campaign** will reach and inspire the public to learn about the connections gardens and gardening have with many important community quality of life benefits including:

Environmental Benefits

- Integration of more plants into city life: tree canopy, community gardens, public parks, green roofs, green infrastructure
- More plants and more gardens produce more oxygen, sequester more carbon, mitigate heat island effect in urban areas
- Engaging Canadians in the Federal government's commitment to plant 2 billion trees, and commitment to fight Climate Change
- Contribute to attaining sustainable development goals

Economic Benefits

- Gardens and gardening generate economic activity for the garden family sector of your municipality
- Impact of public garden visitation, a demonstrated major tourism draw
- Generate economic development, attracting residents, businesses, and visitors in communities across the country
- Enhancing quality of life favours economic stability for your municipality and its residents

Health and Wellness Benefits

- The relation between improved health and gardening is well documented
- Active living for all ages
- Contribute to healthier citizens and reduced health costs
- Engage your with Canada's healthy eating strategy

Cultural Benefits

- Better understanding of the role gardens and gardening play in the development of communities and our country
- contribute to the reconciliation with our First Nations who live in harmony with nature and plants
- Contribute to Canada's inclusivity agenda since "in the garden there are no differences", just plants, and people of all ages and cultures who love them and care for them
- support the integration of a garden culture in schools and community gardens

Our Invitation to All Municipalities:

Communities in Bloom and the Canadian Garden Council **invite municipalities to proclaim 2022 the Year of the Garden** for their citizens to **acknowledge all the benefits that Gardens and Gardening provide.**

By joining Canada's celebration of the **Year of the Garden 2022** you will demonstrate leadership and inspire and engage your citizens using evidence-based information and actions to contribute to the sustainability of your municipality.

Our Proposal:

- **Proclamation of 2022** as the **Year of the Garden** in your municipality (see attached Proclamation Template)
- **Commitment** to be a **Garden Friendly City**
- **Recognize National Garden Day** in your municipality, Saturday before Fathers Day

Should you have any question, please do not hesitate to contact us. Should you move forward with a proclamation, please send us copy of your proclamation.

Contact: info@gardencouncil.ca

<https://www.communitiesinbloom.ca/>

<https://gardenscanada.ca/year-of-the-garden/>

