

Newsletter

July 2023



Mission:
A space for residents of Wellington North to grow food, learn and connect through gardening

Community Garden continues to be a going-concern!

Check out the full newsletter for all the recent and future Community Garden happenings



Community Garden contributes to Foodbank

As the Garden gears up to growing and producing food, our community growing spaces are putting out fresh produce for the local foodbanks and other community members.



519-604-8425

Meet the Garden Manager



I'm Joe Wettlaufer and I'm the Garden Manager for the new Mount Forest Community Garden. My role oversees the garden as a whole, and includes regular communication with our gardeners and committees, which are made up by an incredible team of volunteers.

My journey with the Garden began with a few minds, some paper, and a dream towards community betterment and connection. The team and I envisioned a garden that would cultivate engagement, encourage food sustainability and offer inclusivity for all. Today, the Garden is growing more than we could have ever imagined.

As the manager, I visit the Garden daily; communicating with gardeners and volunteers while overseeing the garden itself to ensure everyone and everything is growing well together. With this being our Garden's first year, my role is ever changing and adapting to its needs.

My role includes anything from: maintaining the pathways for accessibility, to organizing the storage shed and repairing tools, to ensuring the ICB (water) tanks are always full, along with other varying tasks that arise - every day is different. and I love all aspects of this job.

The best part, by far, is being able to show up and see new faces, make new connections and implement incredible ideas brought forward by our gardeners, community and committee members. You just never know who you'll see in the garden!

While I'm very active in the community, I am proud to say that the Garden is one of my favourite projects that I've ever been involved with.



You can reach Joe - Garden Manager by texting or calling: **519-604-8425** (please leave a message) He will respond to your request when he is available.

Thank you to the Mount Forest Horticultural Society for including the Community Garden on their 2023 Garden Tour



A French Drain recently dug/installed will help to move the run off from heavy rains (like we have been experiencing recently) away from where you don't want it.



From This



DID YOU KNOW THAT MOUNT FOREST COMMUNITY GARDEN HAS BEEN RUNNING A GIANT PUMPKIN GROWING CONTEST?

THANKS TO A DONATION OF DILL ATLANTIC PUMPKIN SEEDLINGS FROM HAWTHORN FARMS, A PUMPKIN GROWING CONTEST WAS BORN.

IN JUNE, CONTESTANTS WERE PROVIDED THEIR OWN SEEDLING TO TAKE HOME AND GROW.

THE PUMPKINS WILL BE JUDGED IN THE FALL AT THE END OF THE SEASON BY OUR GREAT PUMPKIN SPONSORS,

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE HOW BIG THESE GIANTS WILL GET! WATCH FOR THE RESULTS IN ONE OF OUR FALL NEWSLETTERS.

To This





Coming Soon!

Produce that gardeners have, which they would like to share, can be put on the **Sharing Shelf**. If produce is on the shelf on a Food Bank Day, it will be included with the foodbank delivery. That keeps the food on the shelf fresh and getting into the hands of those who can use it.

Alongside of the Sharing Shelf will be a Message board where gardeners can see upcoming activities and events, post questions, offer up tools, veggies etc.



Hugelkultur, literally mound bed or mound culture is a horticultural technique where a mound constructed from decaying wood debris and other compostable biomass plant materials is later planted as a raised bed....it is suggested the technique helps to improve soil fertility, water retention, and soil warming, thus benefitting plants grown on or near such mounds. (Wikipedia)

What's Next?

We are looking forward to the installation of our Garden Pavilion - where people can gather, get out of the sun and hold garden activities.



A dry creek bed adds interest and water run-off control



Fast Fact: The Mount Forest Community Garden is home to 314 tomato plants (yes, I counted) amongst the private and community growing spaces!



Our Garden Family is Growing!

Our youngest registered Gardener, Eli (orange t-shirt) proudly shows off his new baby sister, while he shows her his garden!

Mount Forest Community Garden Contacts: Community Garden Leadership (CGLC)

mountforestgarden@gmail.com

Community Engagement Committee

MountForestCommunityEngagement@gmail.com

Financial Planters Committee

MountForestFinancialPlanters@gmail.com

Down to Earth Committee

MountForestDownToEarth@gmail.com

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Mount Forest Horticultural Society

