

GARDENING COMMITTEE REPORT

Prepared for the June 2, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting

Submitted by: Kate Cathrae



Mooney's Bay Community Garden

- Now in its second year, the Mooney's Bay Community Garden is fully rented for the 2021 season.
- Gardeners have started their plants and anticipate a great harvest!
- We are looking forward to loosened health restrictions so gardeners can meet at the garden to share knowledge and experiences.



Gardens Supporting the Local Food

- The donation beds for the food bank are sprouting and will soon have a layer of straw mulch to reduce water evaporation/consumption and shades out weeds.
- Growing now: radish, kale, and onions.
- Up soon cucumbers, squash and beans!



Vermicompost Pilot Project



- Stay tuned for a possible vermicompost pilot project at the garden this summer!
- Details are in the works to participate in a new collaboration with Just Food and the Box of Life.

Riverside Park's 2nd Annual Curbside Garden Giveaway



The 2nd Annual Curbside Giveaway Weekend was hosted on May 22 and 23 and was a huge success.

Many reports of great finds from neighbours.

Amano's Sponsored a Tomato Seedling Giveaway

- Thanks to the support of Amano Gardens, we distributed more than 7 different varieties of tomatoes to more than 100 homes across the community.
- Included varieties include indigo cherry, black roma cherry, yellow beefsteak, yellow pear, brandywine, blush roma, and amazon chocolate.



Diverting Soil Pots from Landfill!

- We gathered hundreds of pots for reuse and will have saved over 100 soil bags (and counting) from the landfill in our plastic recovery effort this year.
- The bags will go to Green Thumbs Garden Centre where they are used at the fill your own bag soil station.
- Pots will be repurposed within the community and shared with Green Thumbs and Dunrobin Nursery.



Pumpkin Patches for Local Schools

- Bayview and Fielding School gardens have agreed to plant pumpkin patches with seeds harvested from our 2020 Pumpkin Parade on Mooney's Bay Place.
- Seedlings have been started!
- Fingers crossed for a strong growing season so students can return in the fall to a fun surprise.



QUESTIONS?

Kate Cathrae, Committee Chair
garden@riversidepark.ca