



#*GreenMyCity*

Application Guide



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What is #GreenMyCity?

Not everyone has access to green space, and not every green space is a good one. A poorly maintained space, littered and considered unsafe, is unlikely to be used by the community. These aren't features of good quality space. Ideally, green space has a sense of community and allows people to connect with nature.

The #GreenMy City Program is an initiative of the Green Cities Foundation in its commitment to *Protect, Nurture* and *Grow* public green spaces in cities for recreation, education and enjoyment. The program seeks to support communities to access various types of green space at a range of scales, serving different populations with different services and in different environments from parks, community gardens, sports fields, playgrounds and public open spaces.

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**Canada's population of 35.15 million
is settling in the bigger cities.**

-Statistics Canada, 2016

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Our Mission.

***Green Cities Foundation is a community connecting plants and people
for a greener, healthier urban climate.***

The Green Cities Foundation (GCF) has identified the need for people living in Canadian urban communities to improve their health by increasing the number and quality of green spaces they can enjoy, cleaning up the air they breathe, reducing big city noise, and cooling down increasingly hot outdoor temperatures.

These benefits can be achieved by increasing the quantity and quality of living plants, trees, shrubs, turf grass, and perennials in the community.



Our Core Elements.

1. Protect, nurture and grow green spaces for people to gather and enjoy.
2. Communities and people: Communities and organizations come together to support their green space and benefit from positive health effects, including improved mood, stress relief, and promotion of physical activity. This is particularly important for children's opportunities to play and for fostering a basic sense of the environment.
3. Environment: Urban climate. Vegetation filters both air and water, helping to mitigate the effects of climate change, cooling our cities, and reducing the likelihood of flooding by slowing and storing excess rainwater.





Who may apply?

Community gardens, businesses, service clubs, foundations, clubs, associations, and youth groups are all encouraged to apply.





<https://landscapeontario.com/st-james-media-release>

What are eligible green revitalization projects?

Maybe there's a public park in your neighbourhood that has been neglected, is run down, or needs some love and attention. Or maybe your local soccer field is a mucky mess every time it rains, and it's in need of renovation.

Any publicly owned land that could more productively contribute to your community's overall health and well-being may be eligible for restoration or revitalization. We want to help communities create or improve green spaces that people will be able to enjoy and that will improve air, soil, and water quality and the quality of life.

Projects must be located on publicly owned, accessible open spaces in urban Canadian communities, including the following: community gardens, city parks or streets, historic green spaces, sports fields, parks, brown spaces, green spaces, school grounds, and gardens.

Eligible Funding

An ideal Green My City Project would involve the applicant being fully engaged and committed to partnering with the Green Cities Foundation by fundraising in their own community, recruiting community volunteers, and even donating to the project themselves.

Through our partnership connections nationally, the Green Cities Foundation will help provide plants, turf, and other landscape materials that support our mission.

Our goal is to create involvement and support from the local community through volunteerism and in-kind and financial contributions so that we can build, enhance and create awareness every step of the way.

The program will not fund the following:

- The purchase of land.
- Fencing and urban furniture.
- Fabricated play structures.
- Annual maintenance costs.
- Contributions to a general fundraising campaign.
- Advocacy or research.
- Asphalt projects.

The #GreenMyCity program and grant opportunity will fund up to 50% (cash and/or in-kind labour/material donations) of green space improvements within your project.

Each project will be evaluated on its own merit and based on its ability to fulfill our mission.

The Application Process

Interested organizations must apply online at [#GreenMyCity Program Application](#). The application questions include the following elements:

4. General information.
 5. Budget and material list.
 6. Project summary, objectives, target audiences, community need and impact. Project goals and GCF mission.
 7. Community engagement.
 8. Project sustainability.
 9. Environment: Urban climate. Does the project feature flowering shrubs, evergreens, perennial grasses, and trees? Does it help improve flood and erosion control? Does it reduce noise pollution? Does it increase shaded areas? Does it remediate a brownfield area?
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Application Deadlines

1. Apply online any time before the start date of your project/activity at [#GreenMyCity Program Application](#).
 2. In 30 days, you will receive a decision on whether your proposal has been 'approved' or 'declined. '
 3. Should we require further information regarding your request, we will contact you.
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Contact Information

Prospective applicants are encouraged to complete an application at <https://gcfoundation.ca/apply/>

Please note that we only consider timely or complete applications for funding.



Otherwise, please contact **Teagan Schroeder, Project Coordinator** at the Green Cities Foundation, for more information on getting involved: projects@gcfoundation.ca, or visit us at www.gcfoundation.ca
