



2023 - 2024

#*GreenMyCity*

Application Guide





#GreenMyCity

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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.

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***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 of people living in Canadian urban communities to improve the quality of their health by increasing the number and quality of green spaces they can enjoy, by cleaning up the air they breathe, by reducing big city noise, and by cooling down increasingly hot outdoor temperatures.

We believe 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.

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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. 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 and cooling our cities and reducing the likelihood of flooding by slowing and storing excess rainwater.
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Who may apply?

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



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

What are eligible green revitalization projects?

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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 contribute more productively 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

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An ideal Green My City Project would be one in which the applicant is 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.

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

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

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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 GCFs 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 help to reduce noise pollution? Does it help to increase shaded areas? Does it help to remediate a brownfield area?
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Application Deadlines

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

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Prospective applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the Program Coordinator at <https://gcfoundation.ca/apply/> to discuss your proposal.

Please note that we are unable to consider late or incomplete applications for funding.
