Manitoba Communities Receive Bloom Awards

The Town of Stonewall hosted the 18th Annual Manitoba Communities in Bloom Conference and Awards Ceremony in September.

Provincially 11 Manitoba communities were recognized and 8 provided with bloom ratings and a special mention.

See the MB CiB website for conference pictures.

Congratulations to the following communities!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community and Category</th>
<th>Bloom Rating (max. 5)</th>
<th>Special Mention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population: 1-500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>L.U.D. of Baldur</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Veteran Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Peace Garden</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Conservatory with Cacti and Succulent Collection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Population: 1001-3000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Carberry</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Community Effort</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Lac du Bonnet</td>
<td>Non-evaluated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Morris</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Morris and District Centennial Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population: 3001-5000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Niverville</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Niverville Heritage Centre and the Heritage Gardens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Swan River</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Green space and recycling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R.M. of West St. Paul</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Middle Church Home Courtyard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Population: Over 5000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Portage La Prairie</td>
<td>Novice</td>
<td>Gladys Crampton Campbell Memorial Garden</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Selkirk</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Gaynor Family Library and Urban Prairie</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Thompson</td>
<td>Non-evaluated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UPCOMING DATES 2016

October 1st—31st: Sustainability month and International Walk to School Month

October 17th—23th: Waste Reduction Week

October 26th—29th: National Symposium and CiB Award Ceremony in Regina Saskatchewan

December 5: International Volunteer Day

UPCOMING DATES 2017


February 13th—15th: Annual Provincial Recreation Conference in Winnipeg

March 31st: MB CiB Provincial Edition Registration Deadline

Sept 8th & 9th: MB CiB Provincial Conference and Awards Ceremony at International Peace Gardens

September 13th—16th: National Symposium and CiB Award Ceremony in Ottawa
SAVE THE DATE

International Peace Garden to host 2017 Manitoba Communities in Bloom Annual Conference and Awards!

International Peace Garden will be the proud hosts of the 2017 Manitoba Communities in Bloom Annual Conference and Awards. Plan to attend and enjoy this beautiful location September 8th and 9th 2017 for more information to follow.

Why become a Master Gardener

[Submitted by Colleen Zacharias and Diana Dhaliwal Co-Chairs Manitoba Master Gardeners Association]

Manitoba Master Gardeners Association was launched in Manitoba in 2010. It is modeled on the organizations in many provinces in Canada and States in the America with the goal of providing gardening expertise on a volunteer basis to the gardening public, thus Master Gardeners are keen gardeners who have trained further in the field of horticulture and volunteer to share their interest and knowledge of gardening.

The Master Gardeners Association supports their members in their passion for gardening and helps them learn more and share their knowledge both through formal events and networking opportunities.

There is a Master Gardener or Master Gardener in training presence in the following communities, Brandon, The Pas, Gimli, Steinbach, Neepawa, Beausejour, Headingley, St. Andrews, Oakbank, Minnedosa and Winnipeg. Examples of volunteer initiatives include the Daly House Museum Gardens Brandon. The Mennonite Heritage Museum Steinbach, St. Andrew’s Rectory Garden, and the Historic gardens at Upper Fort Garry and Riel House. Volunteers also make presentations at schools and at other invited venues. We also assist the gardening public in the English Gardens and other sites in the Assiniboine Park.

The MMGA website (mgmanitoba.com) provides further opportunities to support the gardening public including a very busy email enquiry service - ask@mgmanitoba.com and how-to videos which can be accessed on our website which are very interesting for readers of this article to check out.

Anyone who is interested in becoming a Master Gardener should contact the MMGA through the website. We are proud to support Communities in Bloom and its many initiatives in communities throughout our province and welcome you to contact the MMGA at any time.
Beet Juice—an all natural Road De-Icer

Collet Transport for EcoSolutions

Who is Keeping your roads safe in your community during our winter months and also protecting the environment? Collet Transport is the distributor for Eco Solutions in western Canada and produces the Fusion 60/40 also known as “beet juice” locally in Notre Dame De Lourdes.

What is Fusion 60/40? Fusion 60/40 is a Sugar Beet Based Anti-Icing / De-Icing Liquid that is an all-natural agricultural product that features versatile ice control performance. Fusion 60/40 is blended with salt brine that naturally lowers the freezing point. The Fusion blend not only lowers the freezing point of the brines but also reduces your salt requirements by 30%. Fusion anti-icing liquid passes the strict laboratory requirements of the Pacific Northwest Snow fighters which is the standard set by Cities and provincial highways as the criteria required to tend.

When you apply the Fusion to a roadway or sidewalk it acts as a barrier between snow and ice on the road which prevents them from bonding to the pavement or cement. It keeps frost off bridges which are traditionally more susceptible to icing up. Once applied the fusion dries and lays dormant until an event or snowfall occurs. It is then activated by snowfall to melt the snow or frost and then dry again leaving no ice to deal with unlike other melters. In extreme cold temperatures you will not see much melting but the product will act as a barrier and not allow the forming of black ice.

A spin off of the beet juice is the organic ice melt also made locally in Notre Dame De Lourdes which is a granular salt treated with the Fusion and creating a true organic product that work up to -30 Celsius and will not harm surfaces or vegetation.

Collet Transport for EcoSolutions is a proud Bronze sponsor of the MB Communities in Bloom program.

For more information contact:
Jeff Gulyas
Sales and Marketing Manager
Collet Transport Distributor of Eco Solutions
Cell: 204.792.8649 Office 204.248.2418
jeffg@eco-solutions.net
Or Bob Stewart 204.381.8559
ATTENTION POTENTIAL HOST COMMUNITIES

Manitoba Communities in Bloom is currently accepting proposals from communities interested in hosting the 2018 or 2019 Annual Conference and Awards Ceremonies.

Hosting the Annual Conference and Awards is an excellent opportunity to showcase your community to delegates from all over Manitoba. In 2016 approximately 100 delegates were treated to the hospitality of the Town of Stonewall; this year International Peace Garden is getting ready to proudly host this annual event.

Criteria:
- Currently participating in the Communities in Bloom program either at the provincial or the national level (a minimum of 2 years)
- Have attended at least one Conference and Awards and is able to attend year prior to hosting the event
- Community has the capacity to fulfill Host Committee Responsibilities (provided upon request).

If your community is interested in hosting the Manitoba Communities in Bloom Annual Conference and Awards Ceremony in 2018 or 2019 please contact the Program Coordinator for more information at coordinator@mbcommunitiesinbloom.ca.

Gardens of Remembrance Program
November 30th deadline for applications

Communities in Bloom is pleased to announce the 2016 edition of the Gardens of Remembrance.

The Gardens of Remembrance Program goal and objectives are to showcase our gratitude to Veterans—those men and women who served their country in times of war, military conflict and peace, and those who have lost their lives during war and other military engagements—and to recognize the sacrifices made by their families.

The program will consist of evaluating existing memorial gardens to showcase them and promoting the creation of new memorial gardens to encourage communities throughout Canada to participate in the Gardens of Remembrance program.

Scotts Canada will be offering a $1,500 contribution to the Best Garden submission and a $500 contribution to two other submissions. Three Home Hardware gift certificates ($100 each) will also be drawn amongst all applications.

The Remembrance Gardens will be featured in the 2017 Spring edition of the Communities in Bloom Magazine.

For more information on the Gardens of Remembrance Program go to the MB CiB web page www.mbcommunitieinbloom.ca or the National CiB web page www.communitiesinbloom.ca.

Recreation Connections Manitoba
21st Annual Recreation Conference

Save the Date!
February 13—15, 2017
Winnipeg, Manitoba

For more information:
Phone: (204) 925-5747
reconnections.events@sportmanitoba.ca

Thank you Home Hardware National Sponsor!

Two 2016 Conference Fee reimbursements
And
$100.00 Silent Auction Gift card

Home hardware
Manitoba Hydro’s Forest Enhancement Program

Where can you plant the roots to make your community and natural forest environment more engaging, diverse and sustainable?

Manitoba Hydro’s Forest Enhancement Program provides funding available for tree planting projects across the province.

“Projects are reviewed to ensure they provide present and future benefits to people in the community, and our province,” said Mark Adamkowicz, Program Chair. “Since 1995, the program has funded a variety of unique projects ranging from adding greenery to an urban playground to creating a palliative care garden or revitalizing a heritage trail.”

Mark encourages non-profit community groups to contact the program to discuss a project prior to submitting an application; for posters or brochures to help promote the program; or for application forms. Call 204-360-3365 or email ForestEnhancementProgram@hydro.mb.ca

Project applications are accepted annually from July to November. Full details on funding criteria, eligibility and how to apply are available on the Manitoba Hydro website www.hydro.mb.ca.

Manitoba Arborists Program

Next class & on-Line Course – January 9, 2017
Registration opens Wednesday, September 21, 2016

The Manitoba Arborists course covers tree biology, plant classification and identification, soil science and tree worker safety. Participants learn about proper tree pruning techniques as well as the issues that affect urban tree health, including environmental stresses and forest pests and diseases.

Course is offered through the University of Manitoba School of Agriculture Short Course. For more information call (204) 474-

Manitoba Horticulture Association

Plan to attend the 119th Annual Manitoba Horticulture Association Convention and Annual Meeting
Date: January 26th, 27th & 28th 2017
Hosted by the Killarney & District Horticultural Society in Killarney
For more information email m.h.a@shaw.ca or call 204-256-2745

Equinox Self Watering Planter Discount for Manitoba Communities!
MENTION THIS ADD AND RECEIVE 10% DISCOUNT
MB CiB WILL RECEIVE A 2% REBATE!

Equinox & MB CiB Partnership Program:

- Past and Present Manitoba CiB Communities can save 10% on all orders of any quantity of self-watering planters and in-ground waste containers by mentioning Manitoba Communities in Bloom.
- All orders will generate a 2% rebate for MB Communities and Bloom!!

Contact information:
Call: 1-800-665-7487
Email: info@eqnx.biz
www.desertplanters.com

Regal Celebration Maple—developed by Wilbert Ronald and Rick Durand of Jeffries Nurseries in Portage la Prairie
**COMPOST TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

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**Master Composter Course**  
Available to Manitoba Communities

Interested in having a Master Composter course in your community?

The Green Action Centre offers a Master Composter program, a 12-hour “train the trainer” course and volunteer program, designed to develop composting ambassadors in communities. While this course is usually offered in Winnipeg, the Green Action team is available to provide this course in an intensive form to Manitoba communities.

Consider seeking funding to bring the Green Action team to provide the Master Composter course in your community!

Contact the Green Action Center at compost@greenactioncentre.ca or call toll-free at 1-866-349-8880 to discuss how they can work with your community of Manitoba.

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**You can compost all winter!**

As the leaves turn and the nights turn colder, your thoughts may be turning more towards blankets and mugs of tea than your garden. Yet fall is the perfect time to be thinking about your compost bin!

At Green Action Centre, we support people throughout Manitoba who want to start or continue composting in their homes, schools, workplaces, and communities. Here are some tips for how to ready your bins for winter:

**You can compost all winter!** Keep adding kitchen scraps while it’s below freezing outside, but don’t add browns – those can go in in the spring.

Bin too full? Try wrapping your scraps in newspaper and freezing it in “bricks” in a pail outside.

**Harvest your bin!** Fall is the perfect time to spread finished compost on your garden beds and landscaping elements. As it sits through the winter it will finish maturing and by spring, it’ll be excellent fertilizer for all your food and flowers. Also, removing your finished compost also provides room for all the food scraps that will pile up throughout winter.

**Store your “browns”:** dried grass clippings, fallen leaves, small woodchips/sawdust (from non-glued wood products), and straw all make great sources of carbon for your pile. They are more abundantly available in fall so make sure to store them in a protected place for use throughout next summer. We recommend garbage bins, garbage bags, or an empty compost bin.

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**Attention Municipal Compost Facility Operators!**

**CERTIFIED COMPOST FACILITY OPERATORS COURSE**

Certification for municipal compost facility operators

This course will be offered for the first time in Manitoba the week of November 14th (exact dates TBA)

The Certified Compost Facility Operators Course certifies municipal compost facility operators through The Compost Council of Canada. Certification of facility operations staff provides a structured means of increasing and verifying the level of knowledge. Operator certification programs are also used by various provincial governments as part of regulatory approvals and compliance programs.

For more information contact Laura Hnatiuk, Organics Coordinator at Green Manitoba at 204.945.8222 or laura.hnatiuk@gov.mb.ca.

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Contact Us
For more information about MB Communities in Bloom, contact the Provincial Coordinator at:
coordinator@mbcommunitiesinbloom.ca
(204) 813-5279
MB Communities in Bloom
Box 185
East Selkirk, Mb R0E 0M0
www.mbcommunitiesinbloom.ca
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