

Benefits of sharing your yard:

- ◆ Get a share of vegetables while doing less of the lifting, bending, digging, etc
- ◆ Increase your community's local food supply, & thus its resilience to change
- ◆ Share gardening costs and crops
- ◆ Gardens beautify your property
- ◆ Make new friends, build community
- ◆ Produce more vegetables locally and thus lessen dependence on fossil fuels
- ◆ Watch your yard transform into productive agricultural land
- ◆ Bring your old garden back to life
- ◆ Knowing you are making a positive contribution to your community



What does it cost?

Sharing Backyards is free to all users, and is funded entirely through sponsorships and advertising. If you are a business owner or an inspired individual who would like to support this project within your community, please **email us** to find out how to become one of our sponsors or advertisers.

Sharing Backyards is brought to you locally by:



Please visit our website to see the other exciting projects we're involved with.
www.nwofood.ca

All users and partners of the Sharing Backyards Project are subject to the "Terms of Use" listed on the Sharing Backyards website.

Benefits of using a shared garden:

- ◆ Gain access to land to grow food
- ◆ Lower your grocery expenses
- ◆ Help a community member to make use of their garden space
- ◆ Share your gardening knowledge and put your skill to good use
- ◆ Reduce your "carbon footprint" as you need to import less

Sharing Backyards in Thunder Bay



Get involved today!



www.sharingbackyards.com

One of the biggest barriers to growing food in the city is access to land - despite the fact that many yards, lawns, and backyards have plenty of room to spare. **Sharing Backyards** links people with unused yard space with those looking for a place to grow food. If you have a garden and want to share it with someone, or if you are looking for a space to garden, Sharing Backyards is for you. Please visit www.sharingbackyards.com to search for your city and **post a free listing** today.

Why use Sharing Backyards?

Imagine a world where everyone has plentiful access to healthy, local, organic food. The goal of the sharing backyards program is to further that goal by making sure that anyone who wants to garden and grow food for themselves can. One of the biggest barriers to growing food in the city is access to land. A full 40% of North Americans do not live in single detached housing where the yard space is unequivocally theirs. The other 60% who do have access to land in the cities often leave it underutilized.

Sharing Backyards encourages urban gardening by connecting those who have space to garden and are willing to share with those who would like to grow a garden but lack an appropriate space. The program makes maximum use of city space by making sure that even those who dwell in apartments, condos, and shared housing have ample place to garden. It connects neighbors of different socio-economic conditions together in an atmosphere of trust — doing something that beautifies the homeowner's yard and provides food for everyone.



So, how does it work?

Sharing your yard is easy!

Just follow these steps:

- ◆ Go to www.sharingbackyards.com
- ◆ Select your city or find it using the search tool
- ◆ If you're looking for garden space, browse the map and click on the icons to see who's offering their space, or by posting your own listing
- ◆ If you're offering garden space, either a) look for a good match by viewing the "looking" icons on the map, or b) post your own listing
- ◆ To post your own listing, click on the "Add New Listing" button at the top right side of the map and fill out the needed information. Your email and street address will remain hidden on the map. The site will list your general area, and messages will come directly through our site to you, protecting your privacy. Edit / delete your listing at any time.

About Sharing Backyards:

The Sharing Backyards Project was created by the Lifecycles Project Society in Victoria, BC, Canada. We work to include as many communities as possible by offering partnerships with local community organizations, such as food banks, non-profits, community garden societies, NGO's, city councils, and local food advocacy groups. We offer free use of the mapping tool we've built to help people **SEE** where garden space exists within their immediate areas. By connecting people with gardens, and under-utilized spaces with enthusiastic people, we help build each community's local food supply, one garden at a time. Lifecycles continues to manage the project's expansion and planning, while in Thunder Bay, Sharing Backyards is managed by The Food Action Network.

Our program links people who are spatially close to each other. A garden that is close to where the gardener lives is more likely to receive the love and care it needs to thrive. Currently, we have partners in 12 major cities between Canada, and the USA.