





Benefits of a Community Garden

Social benefits:

- Community gardening is a social activity involving shared decision making, skill sharing, problem solving and negotiation
- You can come together with ideas and meet others to develop friendship with people in your own area, have fun, and help strengthen our community.

Health benefits

- By growing some of their own food, individuals and families have access to fresh, nutritious food and the mixed meals that support nutritional health
- Because it involves physical activity, community gardening promotes physical fitness and health.

Learning

- Learning to grow plants is mentally stimulating and adds to an individual's knowledge and expertise.
- Because organic gardening is a knowledge-based system of gardening rather than one based on quick fixes, it encourages learning in the community gardens in which it is used.
- Community gardens are used by community education, TAFE, schools and universities as learning venues.
- Gardens are used for community education such as waste minimization and the recycling of wastes through composting and mulching.

Urban improvement

- Community gardens re-green vacant lots and bring vegetation diversity to public open space and other areas, making them a useful tool for urban improvement.
- By diversifying the use of open spaces and creating the opportunity for passive and active recreation, community gardens provide habitat for urban wildlife, improving the natural environment.
- Cooperation between government and community members can

strengthen your local community

 Plants play a valuable role in reducing air pollution, controlling climate and saving energy.

Membership

We are looking for people interested in being members of our Community Garden. Our garden will give you a sense of community and contribution, while you garden in a friendly, safe and fun environment. Come and join us to have some laughs and share your knowledge about gardening.

To cover the cost of establishing and running the garden there is an annual membership fee of \$25 for a small bed and \$50 for a large bed.



A member of the Community Garden must also be a financial member of the Berkeley Vale Neighbourhood Centre – the membership fee for this is \$5.50

annually. All Gardeners will be entitled to a key to the Garden – with a key deposit of \$10 – refundable upon return of the key.

Volunteering

Volunteers can exchange ideas, swap seeds and plants, and gain extra skills in all aspects of organic gardening and companion planting. By being involved you can meet new people and learn new things.

Enquiries

If you would like to be part of this enthusiastic garden group

- Phone Berkeley Vale Neighbourhood Centre on 4388 5801, or
- email manager@bvnc.org.au

