

ABOUT OUR GARDEN

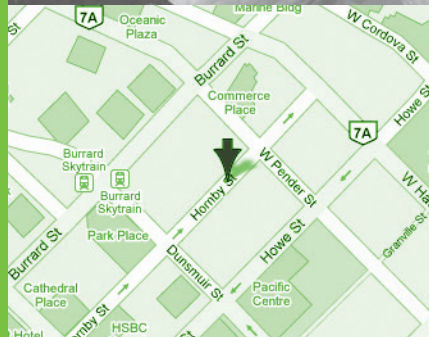
The YWCA Rooftop Food Garden promotes community health and environmental sustainability, by providing nutritious, locally grown food to women and their families in the Downtown Eastside.

OFTEN THE PRODUCE AVAILABLE TO LOW INCOME PEOPLE IS SUBSTANDARD.

“I have never had food this fresh and salads have never tasted better.”

Food recipient

COMMUNITY HEALTH
ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY
URBAN AGRICULTURE



A food garden in the heart of downtown.



Building a healthy and sustainable community.



YWCA
VANCOUVER

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YWCA Vancouver is a registered charity, providing a range of integrated services for women and their families, and those seeking to improve the quality of their lives. From early learning and care, housing and support to innovative employment, wellness and leadership programs, YWCA Vancouver touches lives in communities throughout Metro Vancouver.



WE ARE GROWING!

Entirely run by volunteers, the YWCA 650 square metre rooftop food garden produced over 450 kilograms of high quality, organically grown produce in 2007. **The goal is to surpass one tonne per year!**

The harvest is donated to the YWCA Crabtree Corner Community Kitchen program in the Downtown Eastside. The fresh organic food adds variety and valuable nutrients to the diets of the women and their families living in one of the most impoverished neighbourhoods in Canada.

In addition to providing food of high dietary interest, this garden is being used to promote community health, environmental sustainability and an awareness of urban agriculture.



Project Goals

- **Produce fresh, locally grown food:** grow vegetables, herbs, fruit/nut trees, berry bushes and native/naturalized plants and create local bird/insect habitat.
- **Provide training:** provide YWCA clients, community members and youth with an opportunity to volunteer and learn about sustainable agriculture through their involvement in the project.
- **Develop Community:** act as a place for community members to meet through gardening, educational and social events.
- **Raise public awareness:** demonstrate the potential impact of a productive urban garden and the benefits of food security and sustainable agriculture.
- **Reduce ecological footprint:** work toward minimizing inputs and maximizing the use of all garden products and opportunities.

How to get involved

The garden is entirely run by our volunteers. To learn how to get involved through **volunteering** your time, providing your **expertise** and/or offering **financial support**, contact:

Operations & other enquiries
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