

Email: [nagagardens@gmail.com](mailto:nagagardens@gmail.com)

Website: <http://nepeanallotmentgarden.webs.com>

## Spring 2013

# NAGA Newsletter

### Board of Directors:

**Chairman:**

Mike Chebbo  
613-226-6164

**Vice-Chair:**

Ron Rogers  
613-228-2909

**Registrar:**

Mary St-Jean  
613-224-9169

**Treasurer:**

Benson Kwan  
613-723-8624

**Secretary:**

Hélène Labbé  
613-724-6699

**Director at Large:**

Lee Coates 613-228-9701

**Director at Large:**

Abdalla Anani  
613-523-0024

**Director at Large:**

Craig Hamm  
613-727-3192



## Youpie! C'est le

printemps.....Spring has sprung!...

...And not a minute too soon for most of us at the gardens. Now is the time to start preparing for that planting day in May. To help you keep your garden on track, check out our Gardening Calendar in the following pages of the Newsletter. Being prepared will assure smooth sailing in all your gardening adventures ...well...at least until the bugs arrive!

**PLEASE** remember to **renew your membership** with NAGA and send your yearly fee by **cheque** to the following address:

**P.O. Box 65073 Merivale P.O. Ottawa, On. K2G 5Y3**

**Deadline for renewing your garden plot is  
Wednesday, April 17, 2013**

After that date, your garden will be allocated to another gardener. No exceptions.

## NAGA Expansion Project:

During the first phase of the Community Garden Network funds allocations, NAGA received \$8,000 to start the expansion project, as originally submitted. However, when the soil test came back positive for the presence of undesirable substances, it was then necessary to steer this project towards building above ground planters.

With the help of two project managers, Mike Chebbo, NAGA's Chair and Lee Coates, one of NAGA's Director at Large, a revised project and budget proposal for building these boxes was quickly drafted and resubmitted for approval.

Two volunteer days were then established. A call to our current members and to some of the new gardeners whose names are on the waiting list was dispatched. You responded enthusiastically! About 20 volunteers showed up and within 4 hours, following the necessary lot preparations, we got to a roaring start on the building of 8 planters. The next volunteer day saw us proceed to the building of 4 more planters. We also got a visit from Ottawa's Mayor, Jim Watson and Ward 9, Councillor Keith Egli who have taken a keen interest in our project and our gardens in general.

These 12 planters were eventually completed and are now ready for the upcoming gardening season thanks to our hard working volunteers. Their participation ensured the successful completion of Phase One and for that we are truly grateful.

On November 15, 2012, an underground irrigation system connecting this new area to our main gardening site was installed, by going underneath the walkway and bicycle path. The underground water pipe extends over 300 feet in the newly added area.

The allocation of the new planters will be as follows:

1. First priority will be offered to current members who have physical limitations or preferences.

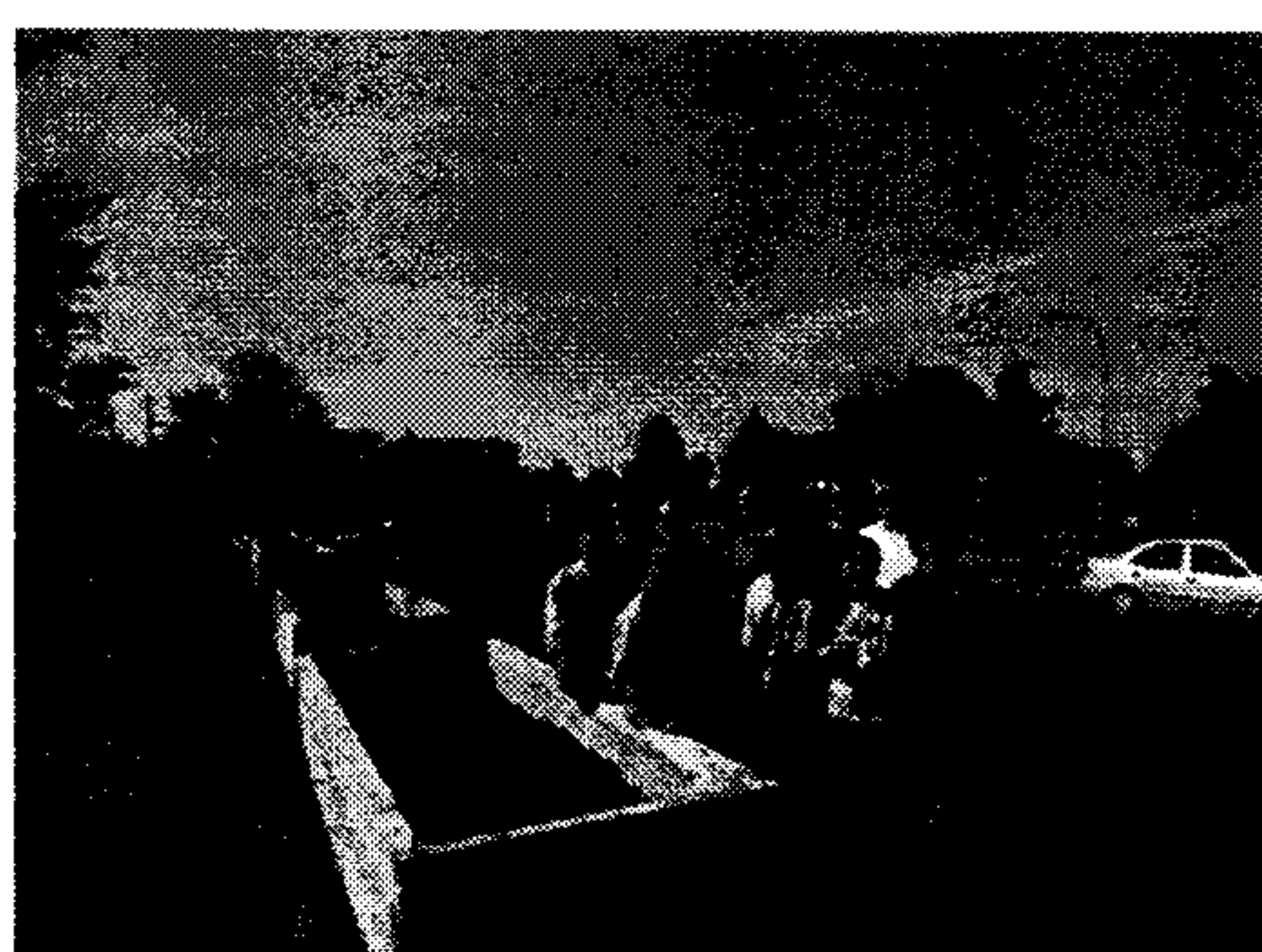
2. In exchange, these members will be required to give up a plot on the main gardening site. This will liberate 12 existing plots for new gardeners.

3. Any leftover planters will be assigned to new gardeners.

4. The rental fee for a planter will be \$20.00 for the season, which corresponds with our fees of half an annual plot or a perennial plot. A very affordable rate!

A total of 12 new members will be added to NAGA's family in 2013. As well, we have obtained a further \$4545 from CGN towards the building of five more planters in the coming season. We hope to see you at the building party!

Mike Chebbo – Chair, NAGA



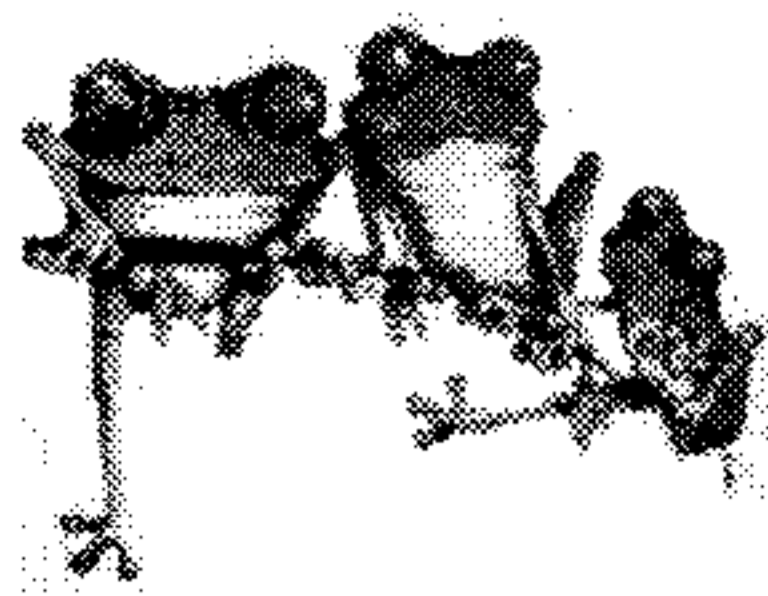
## **N**eed to get in touch?

Your Board members can be reached through the NAGA email address and website.

Email: [nagagardens@gmail.com](mailto:nagagardens@gmail.com)

Our website:  
<http://nepeanallotmentgarden.webs.com>

We'd love to hear from you! We will answer questions and requests as best we can.



## AGM Meeting

Wednesday April 17, 2013 7:00pm

Tanglewood Park Community Centre  
30 Woodfield Drive, Nepean

New ideas are always welcome!

On the agenda:

- Update on the Expansion Project
- How is your money being spent?
- A wood chipper for our use?

Refreshments served.

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## Join Us!

There is always room for enterprising gardeners on the Board of Directors. If you are curious about how NAGA is managed or are bursting with new ideas to help things along, you are *more* than welcome to join us. The following positions are available:

**Maintenance Director:** managing director of the numerous Directors at Large.

**Director at Large:** on the beat... keeping things running smoothly at the gardens

**Email Manager:** answering and managing the queries to our Email address.

## Please Take Note!

Your plot number has changed. **Same plot, different number.**

With so many plots to keep track of, we thought it was time to simplify our numbering system. Craig Hamm, one of our gardeners, spent many hours re-mapping and re-numbering the plots this past winter. You can find the new map on the bulletin board on the shed. It should go a long way to making it easier for you to locate your plot.

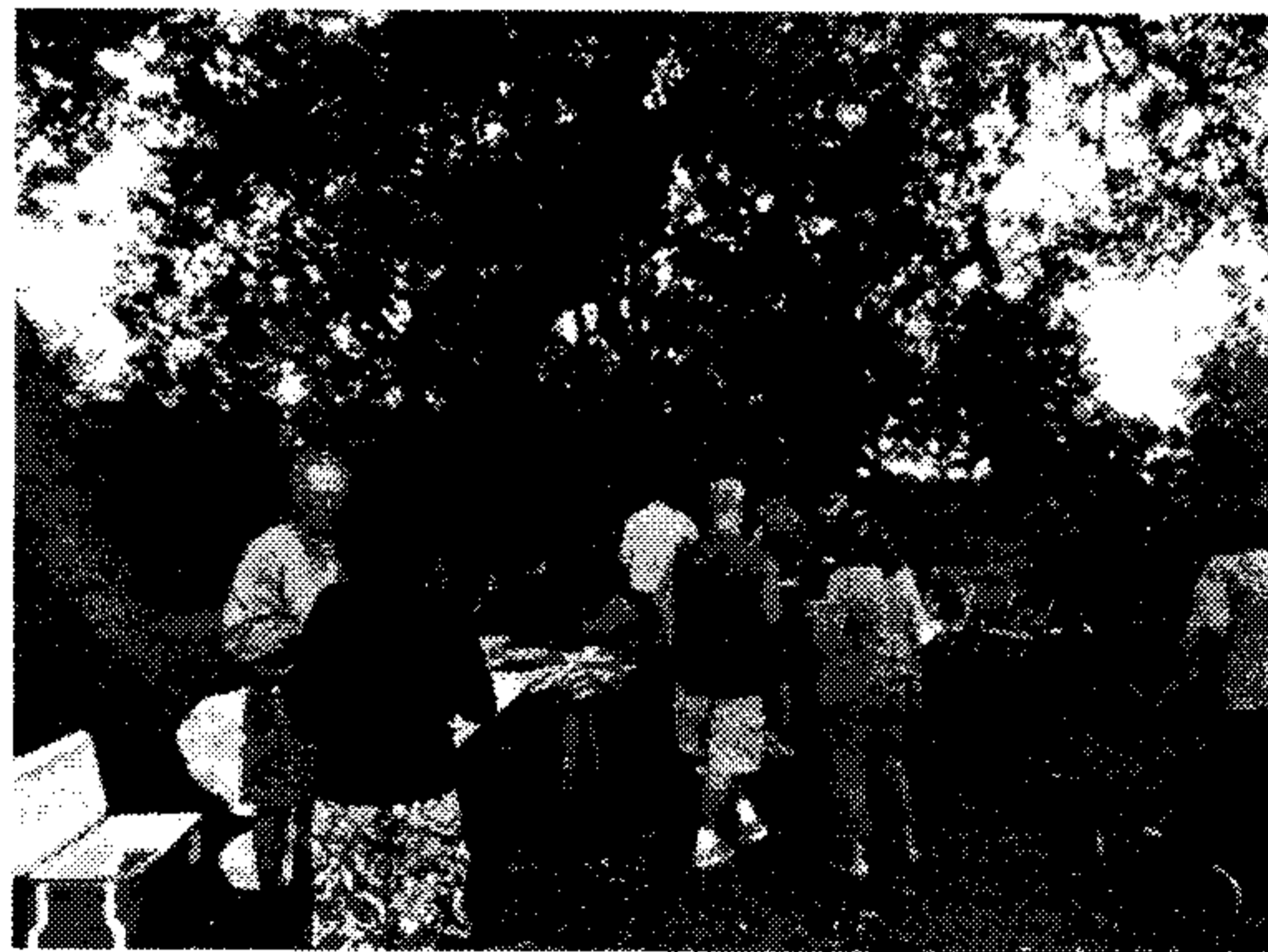
Many thanks Craig!

## 4th Annual September Picnic

We are looking forward to seeing you at this year's potluck picnic taking place on:

**Saturday, September 14, from 2-4pm.**

Everyone has gardening bragging rights at this event so bring your best stories, exchange some gardening tips and enjoy the food!



## Plant a Row Grow a Row

Last season was our first season participating in the Plant a Row Grow a Row program. Our gardeners donated almost 200 pounds of food over the course of the gardening season!

The food we donated went to the food bank located at the Debra Dynes Family House. This season we will be back at it again and we are looking for your participation.

How does it work? Well, every Tuesday morning at 10am, from the beginning of July through to the end of October, one of our gardeners takes the donation for the week to the Debra Dynes Family House. So to donate, put your donation in the big Rubbermaid box in the tool shed on Monday night or Tuesday morning. You can donate your extra produce each week, or grow a row of something and donate the row when it is ready for harvest. That's it.

Together we can grow good food, community and help fight hunger too. Let's get growing!

For more information on the Plant a Row, Grow a Row program, please visit <http://www.growarow.org/>

For more information on the Debra Dynes Family House and the programs offered there, please visit <http://debradynes.ncf.ca/index.html>

Have more questions? Please contact Louise at [donohue.miller@sympatico.ca](mailto:donohue.miller@sympatico.ca), or Amanda at [a.lncstr@gmail.com](mailto:a.lncstr@gmail.com).

## Compost / Straw

Free compost will be available to gardeners this year. Advance notice for this event will be posted on the bulletin board on the shed. Notice will also be sent via e-mail.

Bales of straw will be sold, on-site, to interested gardeners again this year. Date to be determined.

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## Spring Start Up

Come and chat with your friends and neighbours. Join us for our yearly appraisal of the land and preparations for the gardening season. We've got lots to do!

Volunteers will be eligible for a \$5.00 Voucher which can be redeemed, next year, to reduce their plot rental fee.

**Spring clean-up** of the allotment gardens will take place on the following dates:

**Saturday April 27, 9:00am to 12noon**  
**Sunday April 28, 1:00pm to 3:00pm**

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