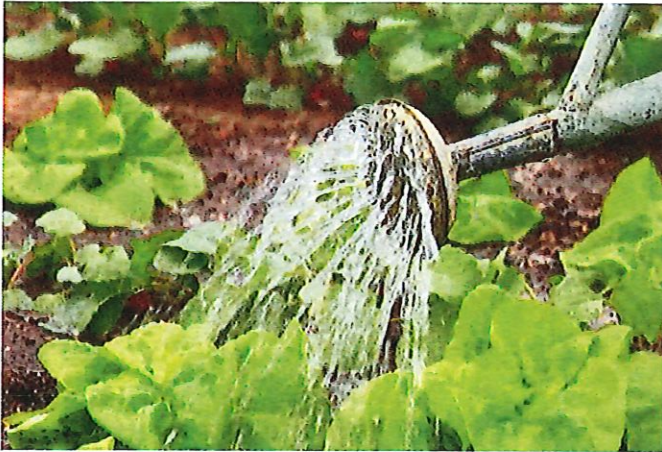




Community Water Garden Program

The City of Toledo is supporting community efforts to increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables in your neighborhoods.



Community gardening is inviting you to get outside, interact with other gardeners, access healthy foods, reduce stress, and improve your well-being.

The Department of Public Utilities is accepting applications for water access from community gardeners and urban farmers' entrepreneurs.

For more information and to apply visit our website

[City of Toledo | Community Gardens \(oh.gov\)](http://CityofToledo.org/CommunityGardens)

Contact Engaged Toledo 24/7 at 419 -936-2020 or

Email engagetoledo@toledo.oh.gov



COMMUNITY GARDEN WATER LINE WINTERIZING

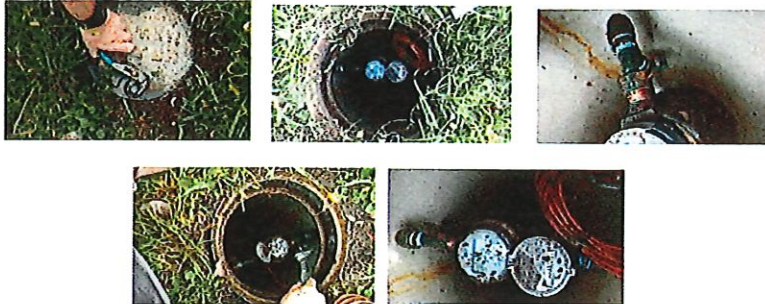
You must winterize your garden's water line to ensure it does not freeze.

If the line freezes or the Backflow Preventer freezes you will be financially responsible for the repairs which could exceed \$400

The system should be turned off and the Backflow Preventer removed before the outdoor temperatures reach 34 degrees.

Step 1: Meter Pit and Main Water Valve

Remove the Meter Pit Lid and turn the Main Water Valve to the closed position.



Step 2: Hose Hook Up Box and Water Tap

Attach a hose to the Hose Hook Up and turn the nut to the on position to drain any residual water out of the system -make sure the valves on the Backflow Preventer are in the open position. If the water trickles or flows out steadily your Main Water Valve is not completely closed yet.



Step 3: Backflow Preventer

Once the water is drained remove the Backflow Preventer by loosening the fittings at the joints on both sides and then loosening them the rest of the way with your fingers



Step 4: Replace the lid to the Meter Pit leaving the Main Water Valve in the closed position.

Step 5: Remove the hose from the Hose Hook Up and turn the nut to the closed position and close the lid to the box.

Step 6: Drain out excess water from the Backflow Preventer and store it indoors for the winter.

Step 7: Call the Dept of Public Utilities at the number on your Monthly Statement and notify them that the water has been shut off for the winter. Then call them in the spring so you can resume using your water.

Step 8: In the spring, after temperatures are no longer below freezing, be sure to re attach the Backflow Preventer first then turn the Main Water Valve to the open position and then switch the Backflow Preventer Valves to the open position.

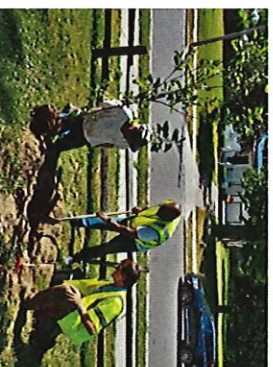
Community Garden Water program

Community Gardens:

A garden within a neighborhood strengthens the relationships between members, reduces stress, and enhances the sense of wellbeing.

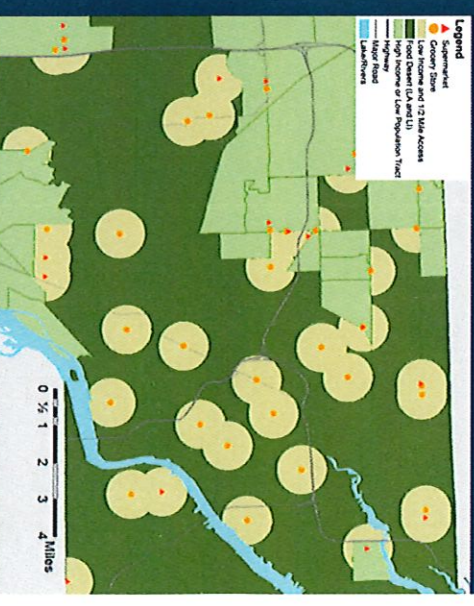
Having the access to water is crucial to the success of community gardening efforts.

The city of Toledo wants to help provide access to water in community gardens.



Food Insecurity in Toledo encourages the need for Community Gardens in our city, which provide Toledo residents with healthy wholesome foods.

Grocery Store Access Distribution Map



How to Apply/Application Process

Applications received through Engage Toledo, Email, or U.S. Mail.

City works

Garden panel is notified and provided with application.

Application is reviewed and approved.

Community Gardens Water Program Application is forwarded to Water Distribution TAP DESK.

Setting Billing Account.

Site visit with Program Coordinator.

End of the year balance, and close program account.

- Tap desk- "Official" City of Toledo Water Service Application is created.

- Tap desk-Service Address for the Tap is established/created in the system.

- Tap desk-Using the Service Address, creates a Tap order and a Meter Setting Inspection Order.

- Tap desk sends the Tap Order electronically to the Tapping & Construction Department for the Tap to be made.

- When Tap is completed, Applicant/Customer calls (419-392-2032 or 567-900-8214) to schedule the Meter Setting Inspection.

- After the Meter Setting Inspection is completed, Applicant/Customer calls customer service (419-245-1800) to set up a Billing Account and to have a Water Meter installed.



1. Address of Community Garden: _____
Zip Code: _____ Parcel # for the Garden to be installed: _____

2. Name of Authorized Person/Organization (Agent/Agency) that the Cor Garden Water Service will be placed in: _____

3. Agent or Agency Information:

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

4. Is this a new Gardening effort, or an already established one? _____

- If a continuation, how many months/years has the Garden been operated by this group? _____

- If a new operation, please explain what motivated the implementation of this project: _____

5. Is this Garden an entrepreneur enterprise? Y or N _____

If yes, please answer question below, attaching any additional necessary documents:

- Number of people operating the Garden: _____

- Amount of food (lbs) donated to community food pantries, soup kitchen church/community non-profits, etc.: _____

- Local businesses or Markets where produce is sold: _____

6. Is this Garden's primary purpose for beautification or food production? (Urban farms, pollinator gardens, produce gardens, community beautification)



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Community Gardens

Neighborhood Revitalization

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Community Gardens

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Community gardens are on the rise throughout our nation as families seek economic ways to eat more healthy foods by growing their own fruits and vegetables. Gardening in a neighborhood environment strengthens relationships among neighbors, reduces stress and enhances a sense of wellbeing.

The City of Toledo wants to help provide water for community gardens without access, because working with non-profit partners and residents can grow more than plants. When everyone pulls together, we can promote economic development through job training and education and support entrepreneurs engaged in urban agriculture.

About the Community Garden Water Program

This program was designed to install the water tap, curb stop, meter pit, remote-read meter, backflow prevention device, and a hose connection in selected community gardens. If selected, recipients will also receive instructions for how to winterize the equipment to prevent damage, such as freezing.

Estimated value: \$2000 per location.

What is the obligation of recipients?

Request ➡

a city

service

Gardeners must pay the water costs. The cost for water will vary greatly depending on how much is used.

A contract for water service must be placed in the name of a responsible individual or organization with no DPU account arrearages (outstanding money owed). An authorized individual or entity (Agent) must sign a contract to be legally bound to pay for the water used at the garden location.

What are the benefits for community gardeners?

Community gardeners will enjoy the convenience and savings of improved water access, no equipment rentals (such as hydrant meters), no need to call in periodic meter reads, and safety and extended equipment life through no more hoses dragged across roadways.

How do I apply?

Applications are available below. Organizations may apply anytime, Applications are accepted anytime during the year on a rolling basis. Requests will be reviewed and applicants notified within three weeks after the application is received and a water connection and funding is approved.

Apply now ➡

How are applicants selected?

Applicants may be asked to meet in person with evaluators. Site visits will be made to all locations and a panel of the partners will evaluate the applications prior to making their recommendations. Program funding is not required to be expended in a specific timeframe.

The community garden water program was designed to support urban gardens where citizens work together as volunteers and are affiliated with non-profit neighborhood organizations or gardening outreach sponsors such as Toledo GROWS.

To prioritize requests, the panel of judges will consider the number of people involved with the project, the number of families receiving fresh produce, and the group or organizational capacity, among other aspects. Neighborhood beautification will also be considered

an element of the Program. The panel will wish to see evidence of the long-term viability of the community garden.