



1180/21
Council - Sept 27
Corresp.

Township of Brock
Mayor Grant and Council Members
1 Cameron St. E. P.O. Box 10
Cannington, ON

Celebrating 100 Year Anniversary in 2022

Re: Beaverton Horticultural Society Raised Beds at Beaverton Harbour Project 2021

The Beaverton Horticulture Society would like to thank you very much for supporting our food security project work in Beaverton. This project included raised gardens at the Fox Park, (a joint venture between the Horticultural Society and the Beaverton and District Conservation Club), raised gardens at the Beaverton Harbour, raised gardens in members private gardens, as well as donations of produce from Beaverton residents. To date we have had four community distribution events, one at Gillespie Gardens and three on the Main Street of Beaverton. At each of these events we have provided free fresh garden produce, herbs and an assortment of flower arrangements from members gardens. We have received many generous donations from produce recipients which we will use to purchase seeds for vegetable gardens next year.

We have received many positive comments from local residents as they pass through the Harbour and Fox Park gardens. Many have watched the seedlings grow into full grown vegetables and almost all comment on the aesthetic improvements to both areas. We feel that we have met our goals of helping to beautify park areas in our town, producing fresh produce, contributing to healthy lifestyles, supporting the clean environment initiatives at Harbour gardens, and by helping to reduce crime by making public spaces more attractive and less prone to vandalism.



Beans galore on August 7



Squash out of control at Fox Park



August 21

The raised beds at the Beaverton Harbour are flourishing with tomatoes, carrots, beans, cucumbers, and green peppers. Unfortunately, a groundhog or rabbit ate all of the beet greens so they are doing poorly. Thanks to Cathy Gray and Beaverton staff who have provided access to the water supply at the Harbour which makes keeping the plants nourished and healthy possible. There are 51 low level beds at the Harbour. We were surprised at the number! We have spent the

Spring and Summer monitoring these beds to see what perennials are established. There is an abundance of swamp milkweed, a very attractive butterfly attractor and pollinator. Unfortunately, many of the beds have primarily grown weeds. We have planted a few perennials and some annuals to add interest but were hampered somewhat by COVID restrictions limiting the number of volunteers who could work in the garden and we have focused on the vegetables. We have tried to keep the low beds weeded and somewhat presentable. If we are given permission to plant and manage these gardens next year we will budget for the addition of more native plantings, perennials and some annuals in addition to the vegetables.

We are interested in continuing the Harbour raised bed project for next year, 2022, subject to Council approval. It would be helpful if we could receive direction from Council this Fall in order to help the Beaverton Horticultural Society with planning and budgeting for 2022.



August 21 Distribution



August 21 Distribution

We welcome your comments and feedback. Please contact Ainsley Gillespie, Vice President, Beaverton Horticultural Society with feedback or questions.

August 22, 2021

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Beaverton Harbour Raised beds August 21