

# Municipality of West Grey

## Budget Request

Request: Community Garden Growth / Expansion

Department: Community Services

Year: 2025

Included in draft budget

Proposed addition to budget

Description
<b>Budget Request Form</b>
<b>Nature of request:</b>
Request for budget allocation for West Grey Community Gardens growth / expansion
<b>Justification:</b>
<p>Currently, West Grey has a community garden located in Durham, which includes 8 raised beds, planter pots, an edible fruit tree grove, and shared tools and water access. The garden features a mix of “private” beds used for personal or family use (with excess produce donated to community organizations) and community beds accessible to all. While ongoing operational costs are covered in the draft budget, funds for expansion are not included. Given the success of the project in Durham, there has been significant community interest in expanding the Durham garden and potentially establishing new community gardens in other West Grey communities.</p> <p>To ensure equitable allocation of Municipal resources across all communities in West Grey, staff are recommending that the opportunity for community gardens be available across the Municipality. As such, staff propose an annual budget allocation of \$5,000 for the addition of new community gardens or expansion of existing gardens in West Grey, subject to interest and demand. Each year all four of the municipal settlement areas (Durham, Ayton, Neustadt and Elmwood), would be eligible to seek limited support for the addition of community gardens in their community. Priority would be given to communities that do not currently have a municipally-supported community garden. For a community to qualify for a new garden or a garden expansion, there must be a demonstrated need (e.g., committed plot users) and a lead volunteer willing to spearhead the initiative. Staff also propose that any new or expansion project require 50% matching funds in order to obtain municipal support.</p> <p>Staff will assist community groups with tactics to help private sector investments and sponsorships to support garden expansion and development.</p>
<b>Consequences of not funding:</b>
If not funded the Community Gardens will not grow / expand unless private donations / sponsorship is received.
<b>Alignment with council priority of strategic plan</b>

# Municipality of West Grey

## Budget Request

Request: Community Garden Growth / Expansion

Department: Community Services

Year: 2025

Included in draft budget

Proposed addition to budget

Pillar: Cultural hub  Goal: Expand cultural and recreation activities.  Strategy: Enhance community centers to serve as hubs for diverse cultural and recreational activities, offering classes, workshops and events for people of all ages.						
	<b>2025 Mandatory</b>	<b>2025 One-time</b>	<b>2025 Growth</b>	<b>2026 Service level</b>	<b>2026 One-time</b>	<b>2026 Service level</b>
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>						
<b>Operating Expenditure</b>			\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00		
<b>Funding Source</b>	Tax Levy					
Tax Levy			\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00		
Reserves						
Grant						
Fees						
Other (Sponsorship)_						