

feature plants

What's looking great in street gardens this month?



Coreopsis verticillata "Moonbeam"
Coreopsis forms a spreading clump of very delicate, ferny foliage. This outstanding selection bears loads of creamy-yellow daisies. Clipping off faded flowers will encourage buds to form all season. Coreopsis is tolerant of hot, dry sites, once established and loves to be in full sun.



Echinops ritro
Globe thistle has spherical, spiky, silvery-blue flowers that appear at the top of the 1 m tall plants. The foliage is also silver, and in full sun the plant will develop into clumps with many stems. The thistle also attracts a wide variety of beneficial insects, from wild bees to butterflies.



Rudbeckia fulgida 'Goldsturm'
Black Eyed Susan is a sun-loving perennial but can tolerate some shade. It attracts butterflies and bees and the dry, black, button-like seedheads may be left uncut to provide winter interest and seed for small birds. Remove faded flowers regularly to increase bloom time. Divide in early spring.



Sedum 'Autumn Joy'
Autumn Joy is by far the most popular Sedum. It is a familiar sight when it begins to produce green broccoli-like buds in mid-summer. These gradually open into enormous dusty-pink flower heads, finally deepening to rich bronzy-red. The dead flower heads often provide winter interest.

gardening tasks

- Cut back the foliage of early bloomers like hardy geraniums to revitalize the plant.
- If you like sowing your own seeds, August is a good time for perennial seeds which will often bloom the following spring or summer. A few recommendations include Althaea (hollyhock), Aster, Baptisia, Centaurea, Chrysanthemum, lavender, Monarda.
- Leave some annual seeds to self-sow to save yourself the trouble of replanting next season.
- Spread a mid-season layer of compost or manure, this will help retain moisture in the soil on any long, hot day.
- Divide Oriental Poppies and Daylilies to fill in empty spaces or to share with other gardeners.
- Check for potential pest problems around your garden. To learn about natural pest management, visit CityFarmer's demonstration garden at Maple & 6th or call 604-736-2250.

Welcome New Green Streets Gardeners!

A warm welcome to all the new gardeners that joined during the month of July

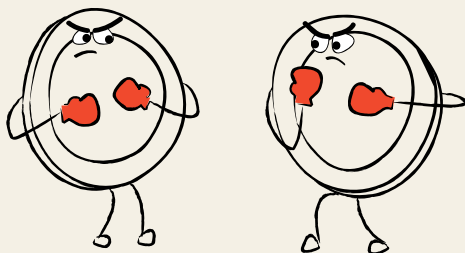
Rania at Cambie & 17th SE and NW - Corner
Dulcie at Nelson/Marinaside at Cooperage Way - NE Corner
Naz at Nanaimo & lane north of 41 st - SW Corner
David at Spyglass Place & Commodore - Triangle
Janet at Vernon & Pender - West Corner

2011 street garden contest

Circles against circles, bulges against bulges.
Let the street garden contest begin!

How it works:

1. Nominate your own garden and/or your favourite green streets garden. You can nominate each garden for as many categories as you like. Simply call or email Green Streets to make your nomination by August 15th.
2. Green Streets will take photos of the nominated garden or you can send us your own photos. Photos must also be in by August 15th.
3. The expert judges review the nominations and the winners will be revealed.
4. The winners will be announced at the Green Streets Garden Party on Saturday October 1st. Mark your calendars and be sure to attend!



Best Garden Composition

This garden makes interesting use of space and is visually pleasing. It is clear that this garden is well planned and that consideration has been given to different height, colour and texture combinations. Ornaments, if used, compliment the overall composition.

Best 4 Season Garden

This garden looks great in every season, displaying a variety and creativity in the use of texture and colour throughout the year. Special attention has been given to evergreen plant varieties and there is minimum winter die-back.

Most Creative or Unique Garden

This garden is very personalized and is uniquely distinctive from other street gardens. It includes elements of garden art, ornamentation or creative expression that reflect the personal touch of the gardener or it uses plants in a creative way that makes it distinctively memorable.

Most Waterwise Garden

This garden requires little care beyond what nature already provides and demonstrates that a drought-tolerant landscape can be beautiful and interesting.

Most Bee & Butterfly Friendly Garden

This garden supports and encourages bees and butterflies in the urban landscape. It includes bee and butterfly friendly plants throughout the insects lifecycles.

Nomination Deadline
Monday August 15th

Winners Announced
Saturday October 1st

Contest Judges

Green Streets has already confirmed 5 garden-savvy judges. It's going to be an exciting competition!



Terry Dixon
Master Gardener & former
Green Street Coordinator



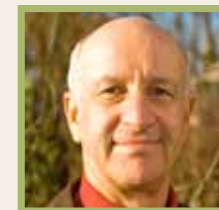
Jane Durante
Landscape Architect,
Durante Kreuk Ltd.



Harry Jongerden
Director of VanDusen
Botanical Garden



Douglas Justice
Curator of UBC
Botanical Garden



Mike Levenston
Director of
CityFarmer

gardener profile

Garden: Traffic Circle at Windsor & 14th

Gardeners: Richard Vorstenbosch

Joined Green Streets: 2001

Windsor Street between Broadway and 16th Ave is a wonderful showcase of street gardening, dotted with traffic circles and boulevard gardens. Richard has called this charming neighbourhood home for the past 10 years. But the feeling of the neighbourhood was quite different when he first moved from North Vancouver into a heritage house near the corner of 14th Ave. Indicative of the neighbourhood at the time, the home was run down and had certainly seen better days. However, Richard and his partner saw great potential in restoring the house to a beautiful state, which is exactly what they did.

At that time, the neighbourhood had lost the welcoming sense of community that once characterized the streets. Families that lived in the area for decades noticed the degradation over time and people had begun to keep to themselves. One of the older residents later told Richard that she knew things were starting to change for the better when she saw them move into the neighbourhood.

Interestingly, Richard wasn't the only newbie on the block 10 years ago. Four homeowners moved into the area right around the same time. The



Lavender, daisies & daylilies create a lovely display of mid-summer colour.



Drought-tolerant grasses and perennials create year-round texture and interest.



Richard stands next to his boulevard garden with the circle in the background.

new neighbours bonded with each other and brought a new sense of neighbourliness to the area. Shortly after the new residents took root, the Windsor Bikeway was developed. Windsor Street acquired several new traffic circles and cyclists began populating the street, adding another layer of liveliness and interaction to the neighbourhood.

The new circle at 14th needed a caretaker and Richard was happy to take on the task. If Richard's personal garden was any indication of what the circle would become, it was sure to be spectacular. Richards's entire property, including the boulevard, is an immaculate display of garden design. His front garden recently won the City of Vancouver's Waterwise Garden Contest, demonstrating just how beautiful a drought-tolerant landscape can be.

Gardening is something Richard has been doing since he was a child. Coming from a Dutch family where gardening is a big part of life, he grew up gardening alongside his Opa and has continued doing so throughout his adult life.

Several years after the bikeway was built, the circles comprise only a part of the street garden mosaic along Windsor St. All four corners surrounding the circle at 14th Ave have been transformed into stunning boulevard gardens and residents continue to convert strips of turf into lush gardens that add interest and diversity to the streets.

Today, the neighbourhood seems to have come full circle. The streets are charming and friendly; neighbours know one another and the sidewalks are a place of interaction and community. People constantly stop and chat with each other while working in the many street gardens.

So to Richard and all the residents who have taken their green thumbs beyond their own front gate, thanks!

august events

Guided walking tours of VanDusen Gardens, every day @ 2pm
Free for members or with garden admission. Meet at the information desk on the Deck.

Viva Vancouver: Pedestrian Weekends on Granville Street
Every Weekend throughout the summer

Downtown Granville St will be transformed into a pedestrian street with interesting community events and other unique activations for people to participate in. Pedestrians can sit, relax and take in the atmosphere street life on offer. Visit vancouver.ca/viva to find out about all the great activities!

Lotus in Motion

Aug 1 - Sep 30. VanDusen Garden

The Watercolour Project - an art installation by Gordon Halloran consisting of bold paintings in the shape of lily pads floating on the surface of Livingston Lake, Heather Pond, Heron Lake and the Bentall Garden Pool. Visit www.lotusinmotionproject.blogspot.com for more information or call Caitlin Hicks at 604-886-3634.

The Westside Pocket Market

Every Thursday. 3pm-7pm. Kits Neighborhood House

An event that helps bridge the gap for farmers, urban backyard growers, and local food eaters by providing an alternative market format. Includes educational workshops on winter gardening and eating local on a budget. Visit www.spec.bc.ca/events for more information

Picnic in the Park

Sun Aug 7. 10am-2pm. Kitsilano Connaught Park - West

Fun for the entire family! Community booths, arts and crafts, carnival games, rides, face painting, popcorn and lots of entertainment! Call Randy Chan at 604-257-6976 for more information.

Native Edible Plants Workshop

Sun Aug 7. 1pm. The World In A Garden Community Garden at East Boulevard and W 57th Ave in Kerrisdale

Patrick Wilson of Linnaea Nurseries guides participants through the identification, uses and benefits of native edible plants, speaking specifically about the cultural significance of First Nation's heritage on our food. For registration, contact Alicaia at 604-257-5151 or abaddorf@jfsa.ca

Zimsculpt. Aug 12 - Sep 25. VanDusen Garden

Zimsculpt returns to VanDusen for its third and final year bringing stunning stone sculpture from Zimbabwe. More than 300 pieces artistically displayed throughout the Garden. Visit www.zimsculpt.com for more information.

Vancouver Orchid Society Orchid and Companion Plant Sale

Sat Aug 13. 10am-4pm. VanDusen Floral Hall

Contact Wayne Riggs at 604-597-5709 or riggskw@interchange.ubc.ca for further information.

Music in the Garden: BMO Family Day

Sun Aug 14. 11am-3pm. VanDusen Garden

On the Great Lawn, presented by Music Fest Vancouver. Family Day is back with even more to entertain children, parents, and even grandparents that love music and nature. Regular Garden admission charges apply. Children under age two are free.

Harvest organic veggies at Earthwise Society

Sat Aug 27. 7am-10am. Earthwise Society, Delta BC

For more information and to register, visit www.meetup.com/The-Lower-Mainland-Green-Team/events/16449745

UBC Certificate in Garden Design Open House

Sun Aug 28. Noon-1.30pm. UBC Botanical Gardens

For more information call 604-822-1433 or visit www.cstudies.ubc.ca/garden