



Backyard Garden Club

Welcome to the August 2025 issue of the City of Brampton's Backyard Garden Club e-newsletter!

In this issue, learn more about taking care of your garden in the hot month of August, and all about Tomatoes.

Have gardening questions?
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August Garden Goals: Plant, Harvest and Plan Ahead

August is an ideal time to plant fruit trees, shrubs and berries—including blueberries, currants, raspberries and newer varieties like hyssop berries. Before making your selections, consider each plant's size, time to maturity, hardiness, pest resistance and suitability for home growing in an urban setting.

Some garlic cloves planted last fall, may be ready to harvest now. A fresh clove of garlic added to your meal is a delicious taste to savour. And you grew it! Keep picking your ripe veggies and fruit daily for your meal prep. Beans, peas, tomatoes and raspberries will also develop new fruit from your endeavour.

Throughout the growing season keep on adding quality soil all around your plants and the rest of your garden.

It might also be beneficial, as well as fun, to keep a journal and any tags that may come with your purchases. Seed packages, especially, have valuable information on the front and back of them. That way come next planting season you may find it easier to choose varieties that grew and appealed to you the most.

Contributed by Asna Black, Chinguacousy Garden Club

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It's pretty hard to beat the juiciness and flavour of a homegrown tomato. And if you've been watching your Beefsteaks, Big Boys, or Romas begin to plump and ripen in your garden, you can already imagine how good they'll taste. Now that you've spent the spring and early summer taking care of your tomato plants, it's time to literally start enjoying the fruits of your labour.

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Tomato Hot Tips: Keeping Your Plants Cool in the Heat!

During the hot summers, one of the best ways to support your tomato plants is by applying a thick layer of mulch. Mulch acts like insulation for the plants, helping the soil stay cooler during the day and warmer at night while also retaining moisture. It's essential to mulch out to the drip line of the plant—not just around the stem—to protect the full root zone and reduce weeds.

Another common mistake in the heat is watering too often but not deeply enough. Frequent light watering encourages shallow roots, which dry out quickly. Instead, deep watering less often helps roots grow deeper into the soil, where conditions remain cooler and more stable.

In addition to proper watering and mulching, it's important to fertilize with a balanced product to promote healthy growth without overloading the plant with foliage. Also, keep an eye out for pests like aphids and tomato hornworms—organic solutions such as neem oil or insecticidal soap can help keep them in check.



Support Those In Need In Our Community

If you are a present or past participant in the City of Brampton Backyard Garden Program, please mention that you are donating from the City's backyard garden program when dropping off produce at one of the food banks listed below.

Regeneration

253 Queen Street East (use south entrance marked as Regeneration Marketplace)
Hours of operation: Monday - Friday, 9 am - 3 pm

Knights Table

287 Glidden Road, Unit 4 (use back door)

Hours of operation: Monday - Sunday, 11 am - 6 pm
NOTE: please separate produce by type

Lifting the Fallen Church/Iglesia Pentecostal Levantando Al Caido

171 Advance Boulevard, Unit 14-15

Hours of operation: Friday, 10 am - 4 pm | Saturday, 5 - 8 pm | Sunday, 3 - 7 pm | Monday-Thursday by appointment only, call 905.499.0777

Heart Lake United Church's Community Cupboard

85 Sandalwood Parkway East

Hours of operation: Wednesday, 6:30 - 7:30 pm by appointment only, call 905.846.4519

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