



Backyard Garden Club

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

In this issue, learn more about how to start your garden!

Have gardening questions? [Email us.](#)

[Learn more](#)



Spring into Gardening!

The sun is shining, the days are warm and your seedlings are making their way outdoors. Here are a few helpful tips to keep your garden thriving this month:

- Harden off your seedlings: Start easing indoor plants into the outdoors with short, daily exposure to sunlight and fresh air.
- Plan for year-round colour: Leave space for mid-season planting and choose a variety of flowers to keep your garden blooming into fall.
- Welcome pollinators: Bright, colourful flowers in beds, pots or hanging baskets help attract bees and butterflies to your garden. Learn more about pollinators [here](#).
- Be water-wise: Install rain barrels and water plants in the early morning or evening to reduce evaporation.
- Make it a family affair: Get kids involved by planting fast-growing seeds like radishes, sunflowers or beans. They'll love seeing their plants grow and harvesting them for dinner!

Enjoy the fresh air, dig into the soil and make the most of this beautiful season!

[Learn more](#)



Discover how easy it is to sprout your own seeds indoors or outdoors with Miracle-Gro's simple, step-by-step guide, perfect for gardeners of all levels.



Peas- a tasty start to the gardening season!

Peas are one of the earliest crops of the season and are a delicious and rewarding addition to any garden. Time is essential! Peas thrive in cool weather, so planting early ensures they mature before the summer heat begins.

Growing Conditions for Success

Peas grow best in full sun and nutrient-rich, well-draining soil. Keep the soil consistently moist, especially during germination and avoid overwatering. A key benefit of growing peas is that their roots fix nitrogen in the soil, enriching it for future plantings. For this reason, avoid nitrogen-heavy fertilizers, they can encourage foliage growth on your pea plants rather than flowers or pods.

From Flower to Pod: Know When to Harvest

Most pea varieties are ready to harvest 60 to 70 days after planting. Once flowers bloom, monitor your plants daily because the pods mature quickly!

- **Snow peas are ready when the thin pods start to show small, underdeveloped seeds inside.**
- **Snap peas should be picked when the pods are plump but still glossy; don't wait for the peas to bulge against the shell.**
- **Shelling peas (also called garden peas) have a firmer outer pod and should be harvested before the shell becomes too tough or waxy.**

For the best flavour, harvest peas in the morning when they're at their crispest and sweetest. Peas are at their peak right after picking and don't stay fresh for long.

Peas on the Plate

Snow and sugar snap peas are tasty raw and perfect for snacking or tossing into a salad. They are also excellent lightly cooked in stir-fries or pasta dishes. Shelling peas, with their sweet and tender interiors, add a bright note to soups, casseroles and more.

Starts your garden season with peas!



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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