



Community Gardens in Logan

Guidelines

Acknowledgement of Country

Logan City Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging, and extends that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the City of Logan.



Nunukul Yuggera Aboriginal Dancers' Welcome to Country, Logan, 2013

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Introduction

Logan City Council is committed to supporting the development of community gardens as a way to encourage healthier lifestyles, create new social connections, develop new skills and build a sense of community.

This guideline aims to provide:

- information and tips on starting a community garden
- suggestions to help manage a community garden.

Council roles and support

Council's role is to:

- provide advice to interested groups seeking to start a community garden
- promote community gardens through our website, newsletters and events.

Council does not take a lead in establishing or managing community gardens.

Contact us

If you have any questions or would like help using these guidelines, please phone Logan City Council on (07) 3412 3412 or email us at council@logan.qld.gov.au.

For more information, visit Council's Community Gardens website at logan.qld.gov.au/communitygardens.

About community gardens in Logan

What are community gardens?

Community gardens are places that bring community members together to grow plants, flowers, fresh fruit and vegetables. They are a great way to learn about gardening and connect with people over shared interests.

Community gardens can provide a range of exciting opportunities for the community. Creating safe, inclusive, and vibrant places for people to live, work and connect by:

- meeting new people and connecting to your local community
- growing a range of plants, flowers, fruits, vegetables, and herbs
- engaging in a physical activity
- improving your health, wellbeing and contributing to environmental benefits.

What does a community garden look like?

Community gardens can be big or small. They can be in raised garden beds, vertical, hydroponic or in-ground.

There are 3 common types of community gardens:

1. Individualised plots - gardeners each have their own plot that they take responsibility for.
2. Open community garden - gardeners have responsibility for the entire garden and take a share of what they grown.
3. A combination of both individualised and open.

Where do I find my nearest community garden?

The City of Logan area is home to many wonderful community gardens, big and small. Logan City Council keeps an up-to-date list of community gardens on our website: logan.qld.gov.au/communitygardens.

Who looks after community gardens?

Community gardens are kept alive and running by dedicated community volunteers. Often this is a community garden group who manage the garden and the associated costs.

Who pays for a community garden?

Community garden groups are responsible for costs associated with the garden. We encourage community partnerships where financial support and support may be provided.

Other funding opportunities include:

- fundraising activities such as plant sales or community barbeques
- connecting with local businesses for donations and sponsorship
- applying for a grant through Logan City Council (see logan.qld.gov.au/grants)
- reviewing grant finder websites for other funding opportunities, such as the Australian Government's Community Grants Hub or Queensland Government Grant Finder (see logan.qld.gov.au/community/grants/other-funding-opportunities)
- connecting with other community garden groups to share knowledge and information on fundraising.

How do I start my own community garden?

1. Start a community garden on private land

We invite community garden groups on private land to use this resource as a guide for your own group development. We can promote established community gardens on private land with the community garden information and details displayed on Council's website.

Logan City Council is not responsible for managing private land.

2. Partner with a community organisation

Community gardens thrive in well-established areas where people already gather. Consider reaching out to your local community centre, sports club or neighbourhood organisation to explore the possibility of starting a garden on their grounds. These places are often frequented by community-minded individuals who may be keen to support or get involved in your project.

3. Express your interest in managing an existing community garden in Logan

On occasion, there are opportunities to take over existing community gardens that are located on Council owned or managed land if the existing lease is not renewed. You can find current opportunities on our website (logan.qld.gov.au/communitygardens).

If you have the enthusiasm and passion but don't have the time to coordinate or manage a garden, we encourage you to connect with other existing gardens in your local area. Community gardens are often looking for volunteers and eager for new people to join. Council keeps an up-to-date list of community gardens on our website.

Manage an existing community garden

Review our current opportunities

You can find current opportunities on our website: logan.qld.gov.au/communitygardens.

If you are interested in managing a new or existing community garden on Council land you will require the following:

Documentation required

- Certificate of Incorporation
- Public liability insurance of \$20 million
- Basic concept plan of the community garden
- Garden management plan
- Community garden development budget
- Community garden risk management plan

Submit an application

You can submit your application here: logan.qld.gov.au/community/parks-and-gardens/community-gardens/eoi-for-existing. If at any point you have questions or would like additional information about the application process, please phone (07) 3412 3412 or email council@logan.qld.gov.au.

Leasing terms and expectations

If your application is successful, the community garden group will enter a leasing arrangement with Council. The members of your community garden group should be familiar with the terms and conditions of the Community Garden Lease, especially the details of the term, permitted use and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

The *Garden Management Plan* provides the basis for your organisation's effective management and sustainability of the community garden. Compliance with your *Garden Management Plan* is a key lease KPI and ensures your organisation is being proactive in activating the garden to its full capacity and providing the desired community benefit.

Are there any costs our organisation will be responsible for?

Yes, community garden groups are responsible for all costs associated with the establishment and ongoing operations of the garden. Your budget should include costs associated with:

- general running costs (water, electricity, cost of supplies)
- maintenance and upkeep of the garden, and
- public liability and contents insurance.

Does Council provide help to offset the costs?

Yes, Council may provide remissions on water, sewerage and cleaning services (where applicable) depending on the organisation's category as outlined in the policy.

For further information and a general guide to leasing please visit: [Sport, recreation and community leasing guide | Logan City Council](#)

Advertise your community garden

If your garden is located at community centre, organisation or private land, you can register with Council and have your community garden information and details displayed on Council's website.

Documentation required

- Certificate of Incorporation
- Public liability insurance of \$20 million

Register with Council

Once you have prepared the relevant documents, you can contact Council via phone (07) 3412 3412 or email council@logan.qld.gov.

Helpful information and templates

These documents may be helpful for starting and managing a community garden: [Community Gardens in Logan - Guidelines](#)

Community Garden Management Plan

A garden management plan assists garden groups with the effective management of a community garden. It outlines key items such as the garden's objectives, management structure, conflict resolution, responsibilities, site management, partnerships and crime prevention.

Community Garden Management Plan template: [Community gardens management plan](#)

Community Garden Development Budget

A community garden development budget helps garden groups plan out the financial costs related to establishing a community garden.

Community Garden Development Budget template: [Community garden development budget](#)

Community Garden Risk Management Plan

A risk management plan identifies any potential risks that may occur whilst managing a community garden and considers strategies on how to manage those risks.

Hazards to consider when completing your plan should include (but not limited to):

- injury
- safety
- odours
- noise
- possible theft and vandals
- parking space for public
- vermin/pests
- damage
- noxious plants and weeds
- disaster management.

Community Garden Risk Management Plan template: [Community gardens risk management plan](#)

Community Garden Meeting Agenda and Minutes

This template can assist with record keeping shared ideas and decisions made by the garden group: [Community gardens meeting agendas and minutes](#)

Support for community gardens

Working together with other community groups

In the City of Logan, community garden groups have partnered with local organisations to work together. This is another way to grow your local networks and support your local community.

Benefits of developing partnerships include:

- helping to build the community garden or maintain and sustain it
- delivering and providing informative and educational workshops or programs together
- partnering with local groups to support building garden beds or infrastructure
- providing opportunities for food rescue by picking up excess quantities of fruits and vegetables and donating them to local charities who support people in need
- cafés or grocery stores donating food waste or coffee grounds for composting in community gardens.

Have you connected to your local community? Here are more local groups you could contact:

- schools and child and family centres
- community centres
- community services and not-for-profit organisations
- men's and women's sheds
- universities or TAFE
- religious groups
- local artists associations
- local sporting or social groups
- local businesses

Other Council support

Logan City Council can support your community garden in a range of ways. Here are other ways we can help you share your garden ideas, activities and support you to call out to your community to get involved.

Active & Healthy program	<p>Active & Healthy program is a health and wellbeing program providing free and low-cost activities in the City of Logan.</p> <p>Did you know that community garden groups could apply to become Active and Healthy program providers? You can deliver garden activities that make a difference to the health and wellbeing of the people of Logan.</p> <p>For more information visit: logan.qld.gov.au/active-healthy-program</p>
KRANK School Holiday program	<p>KRANK offers free and low-cost school holiday activities for Logan residents aged 5 to 17 years.</p> <p>Community gardens can be creative playgrounds for outdoor school holiday activities. Fun and educational activities could explore composting, recycling, biodiversity, environmental or nutritional programs.</p> <p>If your community garden has an idea for an activity which will help make school holidays awesome, we want to hear from you!</p> <p>For more information visit: logan.qld.gov.au/krank</p>
Council's Community Grants	<p>Council offers grants to strengthen the social, environmental, cultural, and economic development of the city. Funding supports a variety of projects, events and initiatives that meet the grant purpose, guidelines and criteria.</p> <p>For further information visit: logan.qld.gov.au/grants</p>
Connecting our Community e-newsletter	<p>The Connecting our Community e-newsletter provides information about programs run by community organisations and groups. This is also a great way to promote and share your activities or events to the Logan community.</p> <p>Sign up to receive the fortnightly e-newsletter and submit information for sharing via the website: Connecting our Community e-newsletter Logan City Council</p>
Logan City Community Profile	<p>The Logan City Community Profile has information that will help you understand our community and see how it has changed over time.</p> <p>For more information, please visit the Community profile website: profile.id.com.au/logan</p>
Logan Recycling Market	<p>The Logan Recycling Market is a place you can get a great bargain and drop off unwanted items that may be reused and/or recycled. These items may be great for your community garden, such as using an old bathtub to create a compost and worm farm.</p>

	For more information visit: logan.qld.gov.au/recyclingmarket
Environmental programs	<p>Logan City Council provides a range of resources, strategies and information to seek to protect, manage and enhance the biodiversity in areas of natural value in the region.</p> <p>Our environment team provides some great programs including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • environmental events and activities such as Logan Eco Action Festival (LEAF) • Celebrate World Environment Day • pest management and biosecurity support • information on native plants and wildlife. <p>To find out more information please visit: Environment and sustainability Logan City Council</p>