



Community Gardening in the Twin Cities A Snapshot

Current as of June 2011

Number of Community Gardens in the Minnesota:

There are over 350 community gardens in Minnesota, but no one knows for sure. Of these, 318 are in the 7 county Metro Area. We have data on 260 community gardens via a survey (thank you to each garden group!).

Acreage:

Assuming 260 active gardens, we *conservatively* estimate 25 acres of community gardens in the metro area. Acreage is not easily calculated as gardens vary widely in size and scope and we do not yet have accurate acreage data for community gardens.

Primary Focus of Community Gardens

Many gardens include more than one category.

- Food Production (74%)
- Neighborhood Beautification (58%)
- Community-Building (49%)
- Youth Oriented (42%)
- Food Donation (25%)
- Education (22%)
- Horticultural Therapy (13%)

Community Gardeners:

- Number involved in community gardens: approximately 7,300 people in 260 gardens. Of these, roughly 1900 youth are involved in community gardens either through programming or as plot holders.
- Total Number of Languages Used in community gardens: 27
Languages identified (in order of greatest frequency): *English, Spanish, Hmong, Somali, Russian, Korean, German, Vietnamese, Arabic, Karen, French, Amharic, Norwegian, Swedish, Chinese, Japanese, Swahili, Hindi, Creole, Portuguese, Sudanese, Oromo, Hebrew, Bosnia, Cambodian, Italian and Sign Language.*
 - 59% of the community gardens that responded to the survey have a gardener whose primary language is not English.



Community Gardens Locations By County We do not have data on all community gardens and this should not be considered a comprehensive list.

Ramsey	Hennepin	Hennepin, cont	Washington	Dakota	Stearns	Blue Earth
Falcon Heights	Bloomington	Mound	Forest Lake	Apple Valley	St. Cloud	Mankato
Lauderdale	Brooklyn Center	New Hope	Hugo	Burnsville		
Maplewood	Brooklyn Park	Plymouth	Lake Elmo	Eagan	Rice	Morrison
North St. Paul	Crystal	Richfield	Oakdale	Farmington	Northfield	Little Falls
Roseville	Chanhassen	Robbinsdale	Stillwater	Hastings		
St. Paul	Eden Prairie	Rogers	Woodbury	Inver Grove Heights	Winona	Nicollet
White Bear Lake	Edina	St. Louis Park		Lakeville	Winona	North Mankato
	Excelsior			South St. Paul		
	Golden Valley	Anoka	Cass	West St. Paul	Mower	
Scott	Hopkins	Columbia Heights	Pine River		Austin	
Prior Lake	Maple Grove	Fridley		Carlton		
Savage	Maple Plain	St Francis		Moose Lake		
	Minneapolis					
	Minnetonka					

Landownership of Community Garden Sites: Survey respondents listed the landowner of the community garden site.

Land-owner		
Faith-Based Organization	40	15%
Housing, includes public, affordable & senior	20	7%
Land Trust	5	2%
Local Businesses and Private individuals	38	15%
Neighborhood Organization (district council or association)	13	5%
Non-Profit Organization	21	8%
Public Entity*	68	26%
Rail Road Property	10	4%
Schools and Academia	27	10%
Tribal Land	1	<1%
<i>No Response</i>	11	4%

* (includes Cities, Metropolitan Airport Commission, Counties, State, and Federal)

Gardening Matters helps people find a community garden to join. We receive phone calls and emails during the year and refer people to a nearby garden.

Inquiries for a community garden plot

Since June 2010, Gardening Matters has received 317 inquiries

- o Minneapolis (171)
- o St. Paul (75)
- o And the following communities (50).

Apple Valley, Bloomington, Brooklyn Park, Burnsville, Chaska, Columbia Heights, Coon Rapids, Crystal, Edina, Golden Valley, Inver Grove Heights, Lilydale, Maple Grove, Maplewood, Mendota, Minnetonka, Mound, New Brighton, Oakdale, Plymouth, Savage, Shakopee, Shoreview, St. Anthony Village, St. Louis Park, West. St Paul, White Bear Lake, Woodbury

