

The Riley Park Community Garden

A project of the Little Mountain Riley Park Neighbourhood Food Network.

Aims to address issues of food insecurity and to improve neighbourhood life for the diverse group of community members (1).

The Issue

How can the Riley Park Garden help improve food security in the community?

Why It Matters

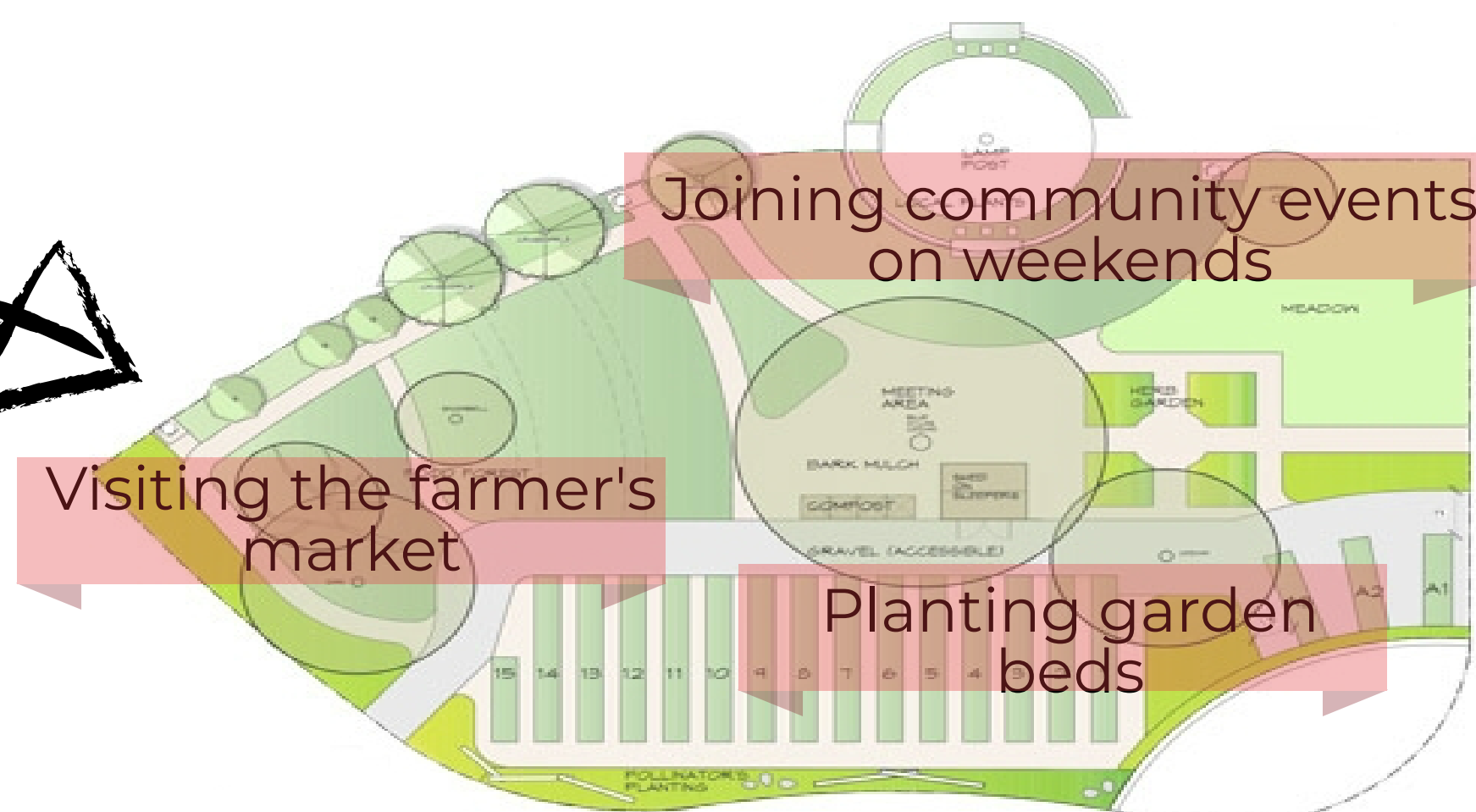
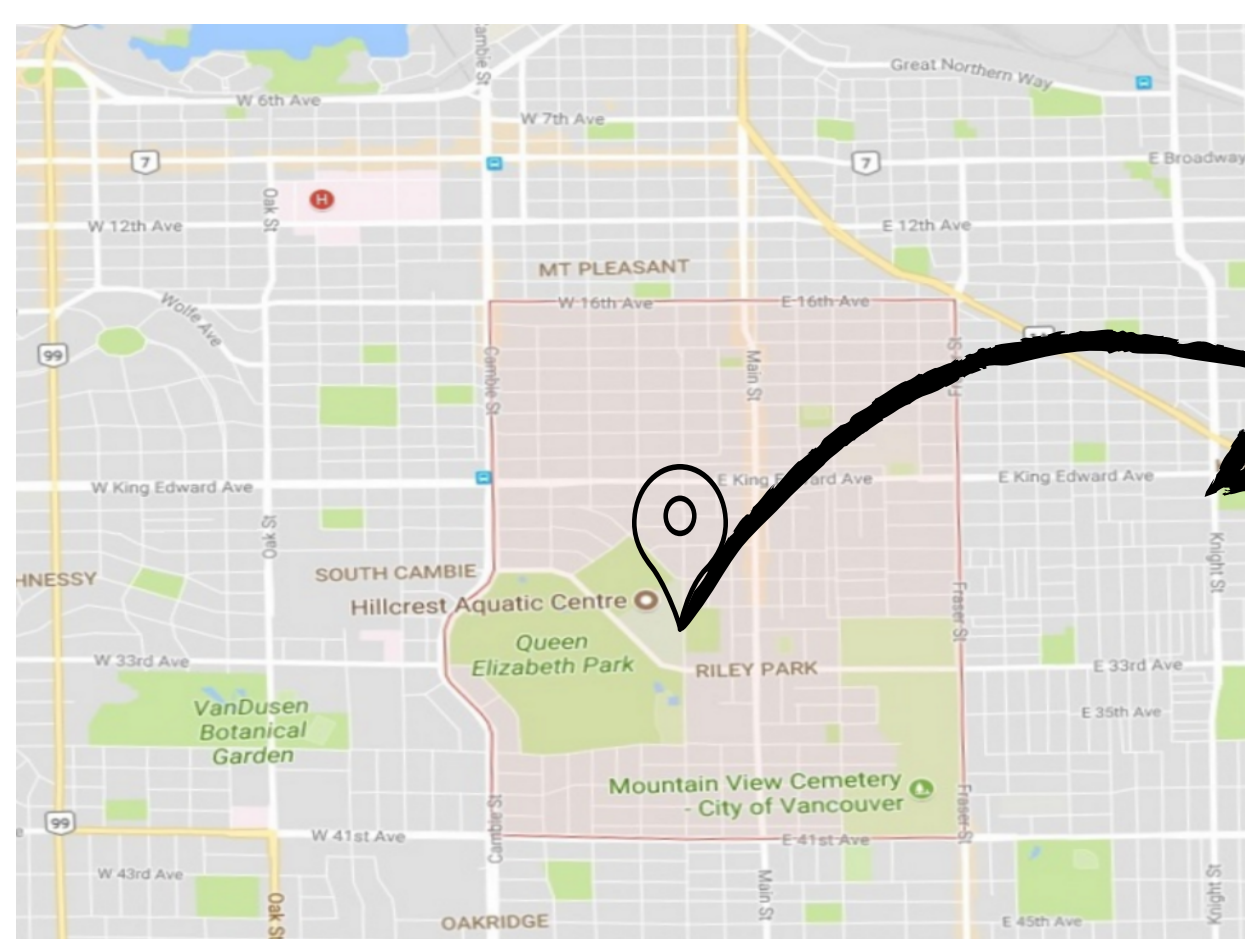
Community gardens can promote health and environmental consciousness, strengthen social relationships and serve as a place of education (2).

Our Objectives

- To build and animate a produce library
- To develop a strategy for improving food literacy in the community

Challenges

- Finding vegetable donors for the produce library
- Understanding the variety of levels of food literacy in the community
- Getting people involved



The Produce Library



What We Did

September

- Met with our community partner and garden volunteers

October

- Assembled and painted the produce library

November

- Finalized the location of the produce library
- Conducted a survey about the types of food the library should carry
- Analyzed the data from the survey

Outcomes

Created a produce library, which acts as a platform for food sharing and promoting community engagement within the neighbourhood.

The surveys suggest that community members will use the produce library and see it as a valuable addition to the garden.

Take Home Message

The community garden is not only a place to grow seasonal vegetables, but also a medium to increase community awareness around food security issues.

It brings people together and fosters the growth of community.

Next Steps

Animate the produce library, both visually and with food literacy information.

Future education about food literacy and nutrition can be conducted through creating a food literacy box and info cards.

For more information, visit: <http://blogs.ubc.ca/lfs350winter2017group11>

References

1. Vison, Misson and Value. (n.d.). Little Mountain Neighbourhood House Retrieved from <http://web.lmnhs.bc.ca/vision-mission-and-values>
2. Chan, et al. (2016). Social-Ecological Refuges: Reconnecting In Community Gardens In Lincoln, Nebraska. Journal of Ethnobiology, 36(4), 842-860. Retrieved from <https://doi-org.ezproxy.library.ubc.ca/10.2993/0278-0771-36.4.842>