

## ***Tips and Resources***

- Be sure your community project abides by all Vancouver City bylaws.
- Be sure you have all of the necessary City of Vancouver Permits to hold your event.
- During your project, please make every effort to let people know that it was funded by a grant from the Neighbourhood Small Grants Project and the Vancouver Foundation. This would include advertising about the event, banners and announcements at it or a plaque on a community bench, etc.
- Be sure you have the permission of your strata/co-op before embarking on a project to permanently change common property.
- Please make every effort to have your flyers/notices/ invitations translated for neighbours who may not speak/read English.
- We encourage you to take photographs of your project as it occurs, so that you can share them with others at the community celebration. Please obtain permission to take photos of participants especially children. Your photos may be used by NSGP for promotional purposes.
- Please consider environmental impact of your projects, for example, ask people to bring their own plates, cutlery, cups etc. or use environmentally friendly supplies.

### **BLOCK PARTIES**

Small grants funding cannot always fund bouncy castles or prizes for block parties, especially with increased numbers of applicants. Look at alternatives for creating great entertainment for kids and attendees

- book a fire truck with your local fire hall;
- invite the neighbourhood policing volunteers to attend with interactive games, displays/handouts;
- include nametags;
- use talents of local neighbours;
- organize a bike parade;
- have walkabouts, dancing, street hockey, chalk murals, historical lectures on our block a pot luck lunch, and informal issue discussions;
- garage sales the same day

**Barricades** - Tentatively book your barricades by calling or visiting one of four designated community centres. See link below.

**How & where to get blockades and much more!**

<http://vancouver.ca/engsvcs/filmandevents/events/blockparty/knowNeighbours.htm>

## **Environmentally Friendly Party Supplies**

As always, we recommend that events try to have participants bring their own cutlery and plates to minimize waste. We realize this is not always realistic and there often needs to be some available from the organizers handy. If you have a composter, we highly recommend trying it out.

(<http://aspenware.ca/index.php> or <http://greencentury.ca/faq.htm#> )

**Food Safety Tips** <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/fssa/concen/tipcone.shtml>

**Donations** - look to local suppliers who have been great supporters of block parties to chip in supplies and food

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD CLEAN UPS**

**Keep Vancouver Spectacular** [www.vancouver.ca/engsvcs/solidwaste/kvs](http://www.vancouver.ca/engsvcs/solidwaste/kvs)

The City will supply you with garbage bags, gloves and all the clean-up tools you will need through your Block Captain. Whatever the season, if you want to organize a neighbourhood cleanup, we are here to help. Keep Vancouver Spectacular will supply you with all the necessary cleanup materials. The pickup service outside the month of May does vary a little so best to call the KVS Hotline at 604-871-6544 first to make the necessary arrangements.

**Graffiti Management** [www.vancouver.ca/engsvcs/streets/graffiti](http://www.vancouver.ca/engsvcs/streets/graffiti)

**Report illegal dumping:**

- **Public property** - Call the garbage & recycling line - 604-326-4600 or 604-871-6544
- **Private property or vacant lots** - Please refer any material left on private property or vacant lots to the Property Use Branch at 604-873-7398.

## **GARDENING**

**Boulevard Gardening** [www.vancouver.ca/greenways](http://www.vancouver.ca/greenways)

**Green Streets Program** [www.vancouver.ca/greenstreets](http://www.vancouver.ca/greenstreets)

The City of Vancouver's Green Streets Program encourages street gardens in traffic circles and corner bulges. As a Green Streets gardener, you will receive the opportunity to obtain free compost in spring and fall and notification of any plants or bulbs we have to give away and gardeners can advertise plants they have to donate, plants they are looking for or information they have to share. year.

**Vancouver Landfill Compost Sales**

<http://vancouver.ca/engsvcs/solidwaste/landfill/sales.htm>

**Free Compost**

- **For Community & School gardens** Contact the Vancouver Landfill 604-257-8631
- **For households** Free compost during the last weekend in May @ composting facility's open house: 604-940-3211

## **Free Woodchips from the Parks Board**

North Side: Drew Gilcrest 604-257-8573 South Side: Dieter 604-257-8631

**Free Mulch** from City Arboriculture: 604-257-8631

## **Local gardening organizations**

- **City Farmer** <http://www.cityfarmer.info/>
- **Village Vancouver** <http://www.villagevancouver.ca>
- **Environmental Youth Alliance** <http://www.eya.ca/>
- **Farm Folk City Folk** <http://www.ffcf.bc.ca/>
- **Evergreen** <http://www.evergreen.ca/en/programs/evergreen-west/more.sn>
- **Trout Lake Cedar Cottage Food Security Network**  
<http://tlccfoodsecurity.blogspot.com>
- **Sustainable Living Arts School** <http://slas.ca>
- **Sustainable City Living Magazine** <http://www.granvilleonline.ca>

## **CITY PARKS**

**Special Events in Parks** [www.vancouver.ca/parks/events/](http://www.vancouver.ca/parks/events/)

## **OTHER FUNDING SOURCES**

**Parks Board Matching Funds** [www.vancouver.ca/parks/arts/nmf/index.htm](http://www.vancouver.ca/parks/arts/nmf/index.htm)

The Neighbourhood Matching Fund supports projects by neighbourhood-based groups who want to make creative improvements to local public land. The Vancouver Park Board will supply funds up to \$10,000 to match the contribution that the community makes through other funds raised, supplies donated or volunteer labour.

### **Community Services Grants**

[www.vancouver.ca/commsvcs/socialplanning/grants/commgrants.htm](http://www.vancouver.ca/commsvcs/socialplanning/grants/commgrants.htm)

### **Assistance for Neighbourhood Greenways**

<http://vancouver.ca/engsvcs/streets/greenways/neighbourhood/index.htm>

## **CITIZEN'S HANDBOOK**

Practical assistance for those who want to make a difference: tips on community organizing, community building activities, festivals, street reclaiming, community kitchens, crime prevention, etc. <http://www.vcn.bc.ca/citizens-handbook/>

## **DOCUMENT AND SHOW OFF YOUR PROJECT**

We are always interested in demonstrating how great the Neighbourhood Small Grants are at developing community. Please take photos and let us know how your project went as we always have a final celebration in the fall to share our experiences. Consider community building websites like [Flickr](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to communicate with your neighbours, or establish a [blog](#) or a [neighbourhood email list](#). Ensure privacy of individuals/children is maintained.