



*a partnership between the
City of Alexandria and its citizens*

adopt-a-garden



Department of
Recreation, Parks
& Cultural Activities

City of
ALEXANDRIA



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Department of
Recreation, Parks
& Cultural Activities

Division of Parks, Facilities and

Operations Support

2900 A Business Center Drive

Alexandria, VA 22314

adopt-a-garden application

name of individual : _____

name of organization: _____

address: _____ apt: _____

city: _____ state: _____ zip: _____

phone number: _____

name/location of garden: _____

proposed period of adoption: _____



What is the program?

The adopt-a-garden program is a cooperative venture between the City of Alexandria and its citizens. Through an agreement with the City, an individual, community, or group commits to maintaining an existing garden located on public property for a minimum of two years. This does not apply to the community garden plot program.

Why was the program created?

The program was created after many civically engaged citizens and organizations expressed interest in creating new gardens on city property or maintaining existing city gardens to help beautify the city.

What are the program's goals?

- * To educate the members of the community on the basics of ornamental horticulture
- * To beautify the city and empower its citizens
- * To encourage the adoption of existing garden areas on public property
- * To promote the use of plants that are site appropriate and are not harmful to native ecology

How do citizens benefit?

You or your organization will benefit through an increased sense of ownership of your community and through the satisfaction of volunteering. Also, a sign bearing the adopting group or individual's name will be placed in the garden.

What would we need to do?

- * If an organization wishes to create, develop, expand, or modify a garden, please submit a plan to the City Horticulturist for review
- * Design a maintenance plan for a garden to be approved by the City Horticulturist
- * Install plantings according to the approved design
- * Keep the garden weed-free
- * Cut back & mulch the garden in appropriate seasons
- * Remove litter and debris
- * Water the garden as needed
- * Report dead, damaged, and diseased plants to the City Horticulturist
- * Once a month, the group representative fills out a progress form and sends it to the City Horticulturist

How do we apply?

First, submit the completed application to Suzanne Bouchard, City Horticulturist, RPCA, 2900 A Business Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22314 for review. If approved, the City Horticulturist and the adopting group's representative(s) will meet at the site to discuss the needs of the particular garden. Once the garden plans are in place, an agreement will be sent to you or your group. After the two-year agreement is finalized, you or your group will be able to begin work.

If you have any further questions, please contact:

Suzanne Bouchard, City Horticulturist
Department of Recreation, Parks, & Cultural Activities
Division of Parks, Facilities & Operational Support
suzanne.bouchard@alexandriava.gov
703.746.5428



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