

Brueckner Rhododendron Garden

Vision.Mission.Principles

Vision

Rhododendron Gardens will be cherished locally and recognized nationally for the floral beauty of its rare collection of rhododendrons, azaleas and select four-season plant and tree collections, for its dedication to conservation and bio-diversity, and for nurturing public outreach programs germane to the Gardens.

Mission

The Brueckner Rhododendron Garden Stewardship Committee, staffed by volunteers and City employees, builds communities of support that: value and perpetuate the scientific significance of the Brueckner rhododendrons; achieve a unique garden presence for public enjoyment and learning, through compatible and focused design, plant selection and management practices and; encourage environmentally conscious and community-minded citizens to contribute their talents and efforts.

To achieve the above Vision and Mission, the following ‘**Guiding Principals**’ have been adopted:

1. Design Concept:

- A documented one to five year plan and supporting guidelines, Committee approved, will coordinate all aspects of Garden development and management and which achieve identified sustainable outcomes
- The original design integrity of the natural woodland garden will be respected by incorporating rhododendrons and azaleas into all beds (areas) while introducing companion perennials and shrubs for diversity and for a discernable “garden presence”
- Maximize the use of low-maintenance gardening practices such as adequate ground and tree-canopy preparation, reducing the number of annuals planted
- The Tecumseh Creek shoreline will be recognized as a naturalized space and will be enhanced with native plant material
- Visual access to all intended areas will be ensured through careful research and planning of plant beds and treed areas, pathways, seating, rest areas, and landscaping structures

2. **Research and Development:** In striving for continuous quality improvement, Committee members and City staff will be encouraged and supported in finding and applying best practices, while expert opinion from professionals will be freely sought
3. **Documentation and Archiving:** Meetings will be recorded through minute taking, policies and guidelines agreed by the Committee will be documented, long / short range planning will be evaluated against annual achievement
4. **Human Resources:** All efforts will be made to attract, retain and develop a dynamic team in the committee who are committed to the Vision and Mission of RGSC and who are supported by a communication strategy for all areas of decision-making
5. **Partnerships:** Develop mutually beneficial partnerships to foster quality Garden experience for groups and individuals that live, work and play in Mississauga
6. **Facilities and Technology:** Provide safe, clean, and accessible facilities, gardens, equipment and to wisely use technology to support our programs and services (CPTED principals)
7. **Finance:** Maximize financial and corporate donations, horticultural donations, plant contributions and other resources and to ensure optimal garden value for all expenses while simultaneously meeting budget targets and ensuring full accountability
8. **Products and Services:** Provide input and recommendations for quality promotional products and services that strengthens the educational and historical context of the Gardens, such as brochures, guided educational tours, interpretative signage, web presence
9. **Image:** To be identified as a dedicated, competent and professional team of individuals who work together at all levels of management in order to create an arresting horticultural experience for the community to enjoy and appreciate
10. **Review:** The Vision•Mission•Principles of the Stewardship Committee will be subject to a periodic review