

# **Resolution of the City of Minneapolis**

**By Gordon, Reich, Hofstede, Johnson, Samuels, Lilligren, Goodman, Glidden,  
Schiff, Tuthill, Quincy, Colvin Roy and Hodges**

## **Honoring Community Gardening Day in Minneapolis**

**Whereas**, there are more than 194 community gardens in Minneapolis, in all 13 wards, providing opportunities to more than four thousand five hundred community gardeners; and

**Whereas**, there are 110 food production gardens in Minneapolis; and

**Whereas**, there are almost forty acres of community garden space in Minneapolis, or more than four square feet of community garden space per resident; and

**Whereas**, community gardens add beauty to urban neighborhoods and provide much needed green space in high density areas; and

**Whereas**, community gardens build community by crossing cultural and socio-economic divides by providing cross-cultural and intergenerational opportunities for neighbors to meet and work together; and

**Whereas**, Minneapolis' community gardens reflect the cultural and ethnic diversity of the city, including gardeners who speak English, Spanish, Hmong, Somali, and Korean; and

**Whereas**, community gardens reduce the urban heat island effect and filter rainwater, helping to keep our rivers, lakes, and groundwater clean; and

**Whereas**, community gardens provide access to nutritionally rich and culturally appropriate foods that may otherwise be unavailable to inner-city residents; and

**Whereas**, community gardens provide horticultural therapy and exercise, helping to draw people out of their homes and get active; and

**Whereas**, community gardens combat inactivity, unhealthy eating habits and social isolation, thereby reducing risk of diabetes and obesity; and

**Whereas**, community gardens educate neighbors about land stewardship, providing an informal classroom for children and adults to learn skills caring for the natural environment; and

**Whereas**, community gardens enhance crime prevention efforts and improve property values; and

**Whereas**, community gardens provide a more livable environment in Minneapolis and present a positive local image to a community's residents and visitors; and

**Whereas**, the City of Minneapolis is proud to support community gardening by providing compost via Public Works' Solid Waste and Recycling Department and by providing access to water through the Public Works' Water Treatment and Distribution Services Division; and

**Whereas**, the Minneapolis Department of Health and Family Support continues to support the Local Food Resource Hubs Network to link residents, gardeners and entrepreneurs with the seeds, seedlings, tools, education and connections needed to build food growing, preservation, distribution and composting skills; and

**Whereas**, Community Garden Day will take place in the Twin Cities Metro area on August 11<sup>th</sup>, giving residents an opportunity to learn about community gardening and visit gardens in their area,

### **Now, Therefore, be it Resolved by The City Council of the City of Minneapolis:**

That the City of Minneapolis recognizes the role community gardens play in making our city more livable, attractive, resilient and healthy.

Be It Further Resolved that the City Council of the City of Minneapolis declares August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012 as Community Garden Day in the City of Minneapolis.