



ECOSYSTEM SOLUTION INSTITUTE

2026 COMMUNITY EDIBLE TREE SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Homeowners and community members in Winnipeg in 2026 are eligible to receive sponsorship for an edible tree with companion plants. All costs for the plants, rodent guard, trellis material, and metal plant name tags will be covered by us, and the tree and companion plants will be already designed for success and incorporate ecosystem design principles.

On your end, you must be available on the day of planting and be prepared to provide the space for, and proper planting of, the tree and companion plants. You will be responsible for picking up the plants and supplies from our setup at the North Kildonan Mennonite Church at 1131 Roch Street.

You must come with a vehicle prepared to move all your supplies:

One 5' tree, four 6"x6" x 5' cedar planter sides, four 18" pieces of rebar, three 30L bags of soil mix, and one 50 lb bale of Typha mulch, alongside a few 4" pots of companion plants and some additional smaller materials.

You commit to siting the location of your planting in a front yard following our guidance tips on the website, planting the tree and companion plants following the guidance in our instructional material and/or videos, with additional assistance available on planting day through our community coordinators, in person and by phone. You also commit to caring for your site over the years with our guidance materials provided online.

MATERIALS YOU NEED TO PROVIDE

Enough cardboard, stripped of tape and stickers, to cover a 6 ft x 6 ft area. Double that amount is recommended to ensure sufficient overlap.

HOW IT WORKS

Folks in East Kildonan and North Kildonan are eligible for the 2026 spring planting. Additionally, we will consider folks outside these locations if they can demonstrate that they are capable of planting the site with less guidance and can pick up supplies in these neighbourhoods on planting day. Please send us an email demonstrating your experience and commitment if you are outside of our 2026 target neighbourhood.

IMPORTANT DATES AND SUPPORT AVAILABILITY

Planting Day is Saturday, June 6.

Community coordinators will be available on June 5, 6, and 7 to help support the planting process.

On June 5, community coordinators will be available along driving routes to help homeowners choose the best spot for their tree and to provide advice on site preparation.

On June 6, community coordinators will be on site in the Kildonan neighbourhood for plant and supply pick-up, and will also be doing site visits to help support planting day.

On June 7, we will be available by phone to provide advice on follow-up care.

Please note that we may not be able to visit every site. This support does not replace the need to watch our educational videos, which are intended to help ensure your site is properly prepared, your tree is properly planted, and your planting is properly cared for after planting day.

YOUR 2026 GUILD

The 2026 guild options include one fruit tree choice: Trader Mulberry, Toka Plum, Underwood Plum, Norkent Apple, or Carroll Apple.

All sites will be planted with an understory of rhubarb, bog violet, yellow violet, ostrich fern, asparagus, wild strawberry, giant hyssop, and inoculated with wine cap mushrooms. We recommend that you add additional seed clover around the sides of your cedar planter for extra nitrogen at your convenience. See our website for the design layout.

Please note that you may write your preferred fruit tree in the comments box below; however, we reserve the right to place trees according to site needs and availability. Plums and apples are best in locations where a neighbour has a pollinizer nearby, for instance.

PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING TO BE ELIGIBLE

First and last name: _____

Phone number: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

PLEASE CHECK YOUR AGREEMENT TO THE FOLLOWING

I/we agree to be available on the aforementioned day to pick up our tree, plants, and supplies, and to plant them that same day.

Name of person picking up materials: _____

I/we agree to prepare the site in advance of planting day to ensure optimal success by digging and loosening the soil and adding enough compost to cover the site to a depth of up to 2 inches.

I/we consent to the Ecosystem Solution Institute and its personnel conducting research on the site, which may include photos, videos, soil samples, and fruit samples. We understand that the fruit and productivity of the planting are for our household's use, though occasional samples may be needed. (Please email us for questions.)

I/we agree to be good stewards, to reach out with questions, and to learn how to keep our tree in good health.

I/we understand that we are part of a research project on edible food plant guild suitability in our actual community, and that not all trees will survive for a number of reasons. However, if we are good stewards, we may be eligible for replacements and for further and new guilds to be planted over the years through ESI programs.

Please write your additional comments or anything else we need to know for your application below:

COMMUNITY COORDINATOR CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS

[To be announced on one week before planting day]

ADDRESS AND PICK-UP INSTRUCTIONS

North Kildonan Mennonite Church at 1131 Roch Street. (Pick-up time to be sent by email)

CONTACT EMAIL

Please email all questions to: info.ecosystemsolution@gmail.com

SIGNATURE

Signature: _____

Printed name: _____

Date: _____