

ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURE DELIVERS IMPORTANT BENEFITS TO ALL CANADIANS

CLEAN AND RESILIENT ENVIRONMENTS

Trees and hedges provide windbreaks and noise reduction.

Water management and erosion control (retention, filtration, purification, flood control)

Plants and trees preserve and increase biodiversity, while providing food small mammals and pollinators such as bees and butterflies.

Plants used to enhance and lower costs of water and land treatment services (removal of toxins, chemicals, and heavy metals).

Urban heat island mitigation (dense tree canopies and green roofs = cooler temperatures, lower energy use).

Mitigation of carbon dioxide (ornamental plants and trees absorb and sequester a large amount of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere).

STRONG AND GROWING COMMUNITIES

Greenspaces offer social gathering places.

Flowers and other ornamental plants add fragrance and visual beauty to urban environments.

Parks and public gardens attract tourism.

Beautification of communities restores pride, lowers crime, and attracts investment.

Landscaped properties and parks increase property values.

Increased privacy and security (perceptions of safety).

HEALTHY BODIES AND MINDS

Plants provide excellent pollution filtration, improving air quality and reducing healthcare costs.

Home gardening provides many physical and mental health benefits.

Time spent outdoors surrounded by ornamental plants and trees reduces stress and improves mental and emotional health.

Planned and managed green spaces enhance healthy lifestyles by enabling physical exercise and other recreation including sodded sports and fitness areas and playing fields.

Better indoor quality (potted plants and living walls filter air and create oxygen).