



## GARDENING TIPS:

# Controlling weeds in your garden

By Lynn Moreau

It's August, and if your garden is anything like mine, it is teeming with weeds. A weed is defined as "a plant that causes economic losses or ecological damages, creates health problems for humans or animals or is undesirable where it is growing". Some weeds, like purslane and lambs quarters, are edible though!

The best strategy for controlling weeds is to prevent their invasion. Although herbicides may be a quick fix, they can persist in the soil, making their way to groundwater, and may impact beneficial soil life. Many choose to avoid synthetic chemical herbicides. If you repeatedly till or cultivate deeply, you risk bringing up buried weed seeds to the soil's surface, where they can quickly germinate. It is important to weed early, when weeds are young. Weeds are easier to remove after a rainfall, when the ground is moist.

Old school weed cultivation is one of the easiest organic weed control tips. This can be done through use of a hoe or by hand pulling. Topping involves cutting off weed seed heads before they shed, even if you don't have the time or energy to dig out the entire weed. Special tools can be obtained for weeding from a standing position, including the Fiskars Stand Up Weeder which has a claw that grabs the weeds. If you are digging out a weed, try to remove the taproot, or the weed will simply grow back.

Suppressing seeds with a layer of mulch is one of the best weed control tips out there. Apply mulch early in the season, before weed seeds germinate. If you wait too long, weed seeds will have already germinated and will grow up through the layer of mulch. Before you lay down mulch, be sure to remove all existing weeds, or they will simply grow up

through the mulch. Mulch is also useful in retaining moisture in the garden.

Straw is the dried stems of wheat or other grains and is usually weed free, but hay can often contain weed seeds. Straw can be a useful mulch, but avoid using hay as mulch. Lawn clippings can also be used as mulch, but ensure these are not treated with herbicides or chemical fertilizers before adding them to your garden. Wet newspaper or cardboard can also be used as a mulch, but if using newspaper, many layers will be needed.

Flame weeders are hand held or backpack-style propane torches that zap weeds with high temperatures and eliminate annual weeds. They may not kill the roots of perennial weeds.

Weed control fabric is useful in weed prevention. The cost for purchasing this material is high, but it may be worth it to save you time weeding in the garden. This is a woven plastic fabric that is water permeable but keeps weeds from growing up through it. Wherever you want to plant something, you take a propane torch and burn a hole in the plastic. If you burn it, it singes the edges of the planting hole to keep it from fraying. Then you plant your seedlings in the holes. This allows you to spend more time gardening and less time weeding. It can also keep plants like melons and zucchinis from coming into contact with the earth and rotting.

You may want to consider the use of commercial organic herbicide spray products. These products will kill any plants they come into contact with and contain acetic acid, citric acid, clove oil, citrus oil and other ingredients.

Elimination of weeds in your garden makes your garden more productive and your time spent there more enjoyable.



# RESOURCES: Agriculture Programs



**IAPO**  
Business, Farm and Agribusiness Financing

## INDIAN AGRICULTURE PROGRAM OF ONTARIO

Financing for business startups and expansions. Loan types include Term Loans, Operating Credit, Tile Drainage Loans and Herdbuilder Loans. Please contact: 1-800 363-0329 or email [info@indianag.on.ca](mailto:info@indianag.on.ca)

## INDIGENOUS Pathfinder



## AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA (AAFC)

The AAFC is offering the Indigenous Pathfinder service—a one stop shop for advice and referral to help navigate the relevant information, tools and support available to start or expand activities in the agriculture and agri-food sector. Telephone: 1-866-367-8506 TTY: 613-773-2600 Fax: 1-877-949-4885  
[aafc.indigenouspathfinder-explorateurautochtone.aac@canada.ca](mailto:aafc.indigenouspathfinder-explorateurautochtone.aac@canada.ca)



## YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS PROGRAM

This program offers a wage subsidy to employers who hire youth for agricultural jobs. The program offers support for 50% of wages to a maximum of \$14,000. Aboriginal employers are eligible to receive 80% of total eligible costs. The following employers are eligible:

- Indigenous individuals or organizations
- Employers who hire youth facing a barrier

An additional \$5,000 is available to offset the costs of employee relocation or to offset the barriers faced by youth. Applications are on a first come first served basis, as long as funds are available.

<https://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/agricultural-programs-and-services/youth-employment-and-skills-program>



## INDIGENOUS AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS INITIATIVE

The objective of this initiative is to increase economic development opportunities of Indigenous Peoples and communities in Canada. This initiative will support Indigenous communities and entrepreneurs ready to launch agriculture and food systems projects and others who want to build their capacity in the Canadian agriculture and agrifood sector.

<https://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/agricultural-programs-and-services/indigenous-agriculture-and-food-systems-initiative/>



## LOCAL FOOD INFRASTRUCTURE FUND

Deadline: August 13th, 2021

The Local Food Infrastructure Fund helps to reduce food insecurity by helping to establish and strengthen local food systems. Those who are eligible include indigenous groups, not for profit organizations and municipalities. Projects must be infrastructure-specific, community-driven and dedicated to improving access to safe and healthy foods for Canadians at risk of food insecurity. Eligible projects include purchasing a walk-in refrigerator, freezer or installing a greenhouse in a remote community. Project activities must be complete by March 31, 2022. Applications will be accepted until August 13, 2021. Applicants can submit proposals of between \$15,000 and \$100,000.

<https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/agricultural-programs-and-services/local-food-infrastructure-fund>



# NEW POLICY FRAMEWORK: Agriculture and Agrifood Canada

Agriculture and Agrifood Canada is in the process of developing a new policy framework. Engagement sessions are being held at the Provincial level. The next policy framework (NPP) will be a successor to the current Canadian Agricultural Partnership program (CAP). Indigenous participation in the sector has increased by 21.4% since 1996. The sector employs 15,765 aboriginal agriculture workers. AAFC has committed to outreach with indigenous leaders, agricultural practitioners, the Province and National Indigenous Organizations. The first phase of this process is to identify the vision and priorities for the NPF which will be captured in a

Ministerial Policy Statement in 2021. Over the past decade, agricultural exports have increased by 67.5 % and are expected to reach 80.8 billion by 2025. The new policy will take into account the vulnerabilities in the food system that were exposed by the pandemic, and concerns for domestic food security. It will also examine the effects of climate change on agriculture and develop a plan for the next 5 years to 2028. Bilateral agreements between the Province and the federal government are expected by April 1, 2023.

To have your say into the new policy framework, contact: Steven.jurgutis@AGR.GC.CA or by phone at 613-773-2922

# Anishinabek Nation Food Map

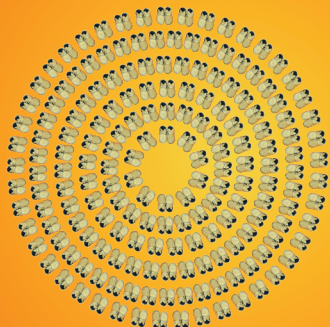
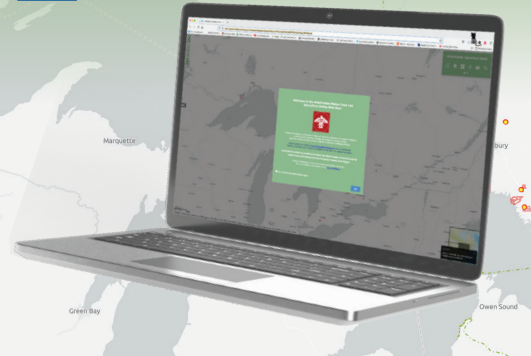
The Anishinabek Nation, Lands and Resources Department is developing an Agricultural Asset Inventory, database and online food map of existing agriculture and food related businesses owned by Anishinabek Nation individuals. The map includes restaurants, farms and agricultural businesses and community initiatives such as farmer's markets, community gardens, and other initiatives.

The purpose of the online food map is to serve as a marketing tool which could result in business attraction and expansion, and identification of potential markets. One objective is to identify opportunities for increased purchase of local goods resulting in enhancement of local economies. In addition, it will also enable First Nation community businesses to grow and network with other businesses in other regions of Ontario. The data can be used as a benchmark to monitor agricultural development in the 39 Anishinabek Nation communities.

To get your business or community initiative added to the map, please contact me! Lynn Moreau.

The map can be viewed online here: You don't have to sign up to view the map. You just have to click on the link. It's free for everyone.

<https://anishinabek.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=36a52db190874970ae7ab4274719eac0>



## EVERY CHILD MATTERS

## EVENTS

### ANISHINABEK AGRICULTURAL ROUNDTABLE MEETINGS:

Northern Superior: Wednesday September 15, 2021

Lake Huron: Wednesday September 22, 2021

Southeast/Southwest: Wednesday, September 29, 2021

### ANISHINABEK AGRICULTURE WEBSITE

Do you want to know how to grow garlic? How about how to raise chickens or find out where to get funding and resources start a farm business? For all of these topics and more, check out our new agricultural website at <https://anishinabekagriculture.ca/>

**THREE FORKS FARM TOUR**: Saturday, August 14th  
9 Douglas Road, Gore Bay, Ontario

Learn why and how we love growing organic food for you \$10/person, register online to join or call us at 705-931-6074 Join us for our second annual farm tour. Explore the place where all the food comes from, see the food in the ground and learn all the intricacies of organic vegetable, chicken and seed farming on Manitoulin Island.

Visit their website: <https://www.threeforksfarms.com/>

You will learn:

- organic fertility programs
- organic pest management strategies
- how we manage weeds
- crop propagation and seed starting
- post harvest handling and processing
- how biodiversity plays a role in our farm
- soil health and the environment under the surface
- meet the faces behind the food

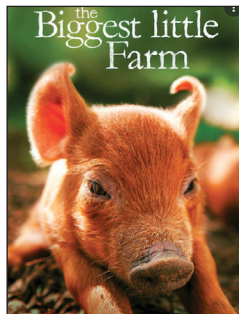
AgCAREERS CAREER FAIR will be holding a series of Feed Your Future Virtual Career Fairs.

Eastern and Northern Ontario August 18th (11 am - 3 pm)

All Ontario September 9th (11am - 4 pm)

Contact: Chris McLoughlin, Custom Talent Solutions Specialist at AgCareers.com – Feeding the World with Talent by email: [chris.mcloughlin@agcareers.com](mailto:chris.mcloughlin@agcareers.com)  
Phone: 1-877-438-5729 ext. 243

**MOVIE REVIEW:** The Biggest Little Farm follows two dreamers and their beloved dog when they make a choice that takes them out of their tiny L.A. apartment and into the countryside to build one of the most diverse farms of its kind in complete coexistence with nature. Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UfDTM4JxHl8>



## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

FARMERS FOR CLIMATE SOLUTIONS is currently seeking a Field Program and Farmer Engagement Manager to lead programming in farmer training and engagement. Learn more about this position and how to apply on the Farmers for Climate Solutions Website

Field Program & Farmer Engagement Manager — Farmers for Climate Solutions

Deadline: August 11th, 2021



### KIIN MIINWAA ENDADIZIWINAN LANDS AND RESOURCES

#### OVERVIEW

The Lands and Resources Department was established within the Anishinabek Nation in the spring of 2007. Currently, there are four program areas with staffing capabilities. These include: Water Resources, Minerals and Mining, Trapping, and Canada Ontario Resource Development Agreement.

#### MISSION

The Lands and Resources mission is to foster a better quality of life by ensuring access to natural resources by supporting the goals, values and aspirations of the Anishinabek Nation.

### MDAAMIIN GIIZIS (Corn Moon) – August



The ninth moon of Creation is the Corn Moon, during which time we learn about the cycle of life. Each cob of corn has thirteen rows of multicoloured seeds which represent all the spirits waiting to begin their Earth Walk. These will be the future generations for whom we must prepare.



LYNN MOREAU is a Lands and Resources Program Coordinator with the Anishinabek Nation where she is responsible for the Agriculture Portfolio. Originally from Callander, Ontario, Lynn now lives in Bonfield where she is co-owner of Green Legacy Farm with her husband Dean. Lynn holds an Environmental Science degree from Trent University and a Fish and Wildlife Technician Diploma from Sault College. Lynn can assist with funding application processes and has agricultural experience in vegetable and perennial growing, chicken farming, maple syrup production and aquaculture.



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