

# The Greenwise Gazette

*Tending to Creation at Immanuel Anglican Church, Regina*

**SUSTAINABLE  
SUMMER  
CHALLENGE**  
MCC THRIFT



Last month we included the link for signing up for MCC Thrift's Sustainable Summer Challenge. If you didn't get a chance to sign up, here are some of the activities you might want to try:

1. Create a sustainable kitchen herb garden.



2. If you don't have a summer holiday planned, try a staycation, checking out local attractions and resulting in a reduction in your carbon footprint. Some ideas you could incorporate:
  - Have a camping trip in your backyard
  - Visit local museums, historical spots, art galleries, gardens, or other local attractions.
3. Get rid of unwanted items by donating them to the Salvation Army.
4. Go stargazing!

For more information, check out their website [HERE](#).

You can also check out their 30 ways in 30 days challenge [30 DAYS](#). This challenge includes things like making a birdhouse – Did you know that birds

help spread seeds so that plants can grow? This is a way to provide a safe house for our winged friends.

## Pollinator Garden Update Bees on the plants

Our pollinator garden is growing, blooming, and attracting the bees!



## Children's Garden

The children made a Bee Hotel for our native garden!



We acknowledge that we are on Treaty 4 territory, the original and traditional lands of the Nehiwayak (Cree), Saulteaux, Assiniboine and Metis Nations. We respect and honor the Treaties that were made on all territories; we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past; we are committed to moving forward in partnership with Indigenous Nations in the spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

## Big Backyard Bio Blitz



Get closer to nature and contribute to the protection of the species you love by participating in Canada's Big Backyard BioBlitz. All you need is a smartphone, tablet, or digital camera. Just snap photos of plants, animals, insects and other creatures wherever you happen to be. Then share your observations to help scientists take stock of local biodiversity, track rare species, and fight invasive ones. The Nature Conservancy of Canada is hosting the Big Backyard BioBlitz from August 3 to 7 this year.

- 1. Sign up!** You'll receive easy-to-follow instructions on how to take part, and resources to help you along the way.
- 2. Participate anywhere** — no backyard required! Photograph the beetles on your balcony...the buttercups in the park down the street...the beaver you encounter on your canoe trip...as long as it's in Canada, every contribution counts. Audio recordings are also welcome.
- 3. Share your discoveries.** Between August 3-7 venture out into your neighbourhood — with friends, family or by yourself — and record your observations.



To find out more or join the Bio Blitz this year, go to this link: [backyardbioblitz.ca](http://backyardbioblitz.ca)

## Baking Soda – a Gardener's Best Friend

- **Discourage Weeds** - Just pour or sweep baking soda in a thick layer into cracks on sidewalks or patios. The baking soda will kill weeds that have already sprouted and will definitely prevent new ones coming up!

- **Kill Cabbage Worms** - Mix equal parts flour and baking soda and dust plants (cabbage, broccoli, kale) being eaten by cabbage worms. They usually die in a day or two.
- **Kill Crabgrass** - To get rid of weeds (especially crab grasses) moisten the area and add a thick layer of baking soda to create a paste. The crabgrass will die in 2 or 3 days. But be careful when applying baking soda and try not to put it on the grass because it will burn your grass and kill it.
- **Clean Your Hands** - The feeling is awesome! After a day in the dirt in your garden, clean your hands with baking soda by rubbing them. They will become soft and smooth in a minute.
- **Ants** - Mix 5 tablespoons of baking soda with the same amount of powdered sugar, and a tablespoon of water, and pour the mixture into anthills. Add a bit of vinegar, and you'll reduce the ant population around the garden.



## Moths

Did you know that moths can tell us about the health of our environment? As they are found in many different habitats and are sensitive to change, monitoring their numbers and ranges can provide clues to the effects of pesticides, air pollution and climate change. We often overlook moths but the next time you see one, remember that they play a vital role in nature!



Read more here: [Nature Conservancy Canada - Moths](#)

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