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RESOLUTION NO. 2012-105  
HONORING COMMUNITY GARDENING DAY IN EDINA

Whereas, there are schoolyard gardens at Highlands Elementary and Concord Elementary providing community gardening opportunities to hundreds of students, teachers, staff and residents; and

Whereas, schoolyard gardens educate students about land stewardship, providing a classroom for children and adults to learn skills caring for the natural environment; and

Whereas, schoolyard gardens provide a living laboratory where students engage in hands-on skill building in math and science;

Whereas, schoolyard gardens allow students to see the process from growing to harvesting to preparation to meal time, making more likely that they would continue to make healthy eating choices; and

Whereas, schoolyard gardens have taught students the value of sharing with their community by donating excess food to VEAP and other local food shelves near the city of Edina; and

Whereas, the city of Edina is participating in a collaboration among the cities of Bloomington, Edina, and Richfield and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota to improve the health of our communities; and

Whereas, there are additional community gardens located at churches and apartment buildings bringing together and uniting congregations and senior communities in the city; 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, community gardens combat inactivity, unhealthy eating habits and social isolation, thereby reducing risk of diabetes and obesity; and

Whereas, community gardens provide access to nutritionally rich and culturally appropriate foods that may otherwise be unavailable or new to students and 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 provide a more livable environment in Edina and present a positive local image to a community's residents and visitors; 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, That the City of Edina recognizes the role community gardens play in making our city more livable, resilient and healthy.

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

Adopted August 6, 2012

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Debra A. Mangen, City Clerk

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James B. Hovland, Mayor