

# NEIGHBOURING for Climate

A toolkit to help you get climate ready with your neighbours!

Pilot Program | 2023

**CHANGE FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

**STARTER CARD** S1

## Get to Know Your Neighbours

**WHY TAKE ACTION?**

Your neighbours will often be the first people on the scene with you during an emergency. Knowing your neighbours can help you prepare, respond, and recover from emergencies, such as power outages, floods, and other disasters. Being neighbourly can create feelings of safety and comfort, and lead to long-lasting friendships.

<b>EFFORT:</b>	<b>SEASON:</b>	<b>TAGS:</b>
<p>Medium</p>		Low Cost Family Friendly

**STARTER CARD** S2

## Learn About Climate Change

**WHY TAKE ACTION?**

Our climate is already changing locally and globally. Learning about how to mitigate the impacts and adapt to a changing climate is the first step towards action.

<b>EFFORT:</b>	<b>SEASON:</b>	<b>TAGS:</b>
<p>Low</p>		Low Cost Family Friendly

**STARTER CARD** S3

## Become a Climate Change Advocate

**WHY TAKE ACTION?**

Every neighbourhood needs someone to take the first step. Use your knowledge and passion to encourage others to join you in taking climate action on your block.

<b>EFFORT:</b>	<b>SEASON:</b>	<b>TAGS:</b>
<p>Low</p>		Low Cost Family Friendly

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

**Reach out!** Make connections by dropping a note, stopping to chat, or hosting a gathering. Getting to know people's skills and needs can help in all sorts of situations. For example: Who has disaster recovery experience? Who has sight or hearing challenges? Who has a cup of sugar to spare?

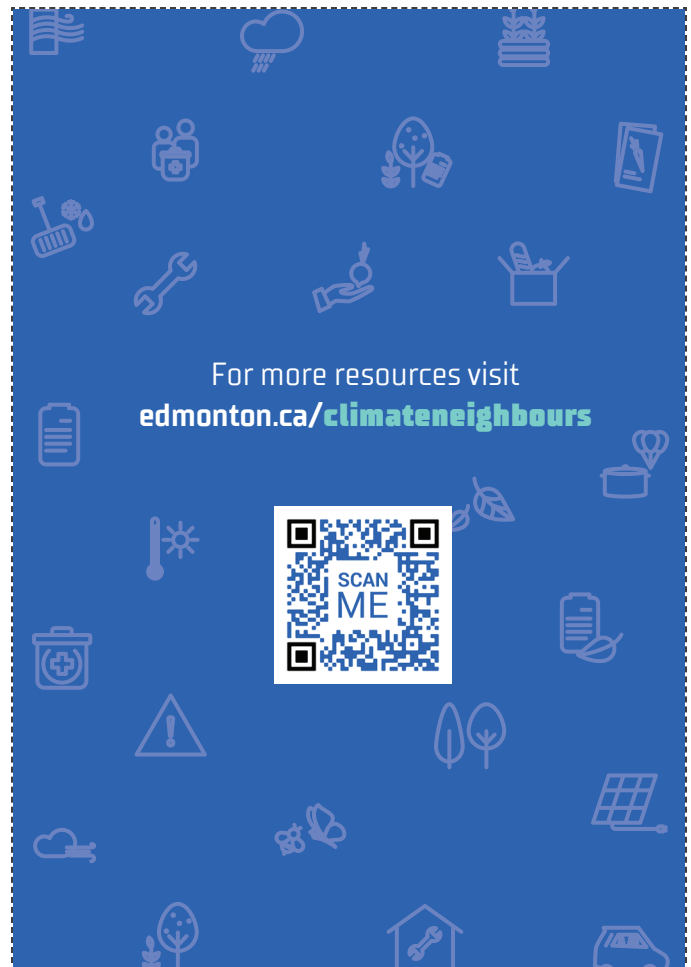
**Setup a buddy system.** Pair neighbours to share information and check-in on each other. Consider the specific needs someone might have (e.g. no internet, limited mobility) and how they can be matched to ensure the best mutual support.

## NEXT UP!

This action helps to start all other cards!

# CHANGE FOR CLIMATE

Edmonton



For more resources visit  
[edmonton.ca/climateneighbours](https://edmonton.ca/climateneighbours)



## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

**Reach out!** Talk to your Community League and other local organizations to understand how they are considering climate change and what actions they are already taking.

**Take initiative!** Talk to your neighbours about climate change and brainstorm ways to improve your block's resilience to the impacts of climate change. Lead neighbourhood action by using these action cards with neighbours and exploring additional resources at:

[edmonton.ca/climateneighbours](https://edmonton.ca/climateneighbours)

## NEXT UP!

This action helps to start all other cards!

# CHANGE FOR CLIMATE

Edmonton

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

**Look at local resources** to learn more about climate change, its causes, and how it will impact Edmonton. Research actions to reduce your carbon footprint and adapt to anticipated changes. Start your search at:

[edmonton.ca/climateneighbours](https://edmonton.ca/climateneighbours)

## NEXT UP!

This action helps to start all other cards!

# CHANGE FOR CLIMATE

Edmonton

## STARTER CARD

S4

# Create a Neighbourhood Inventory



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

To address unique local needs and opportunities, it is important to know what conditions exist in your neighbourhood and what assets you and your neighbours have available to you.

#### EFFORT:



Medium

#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



## NEW ACTION | STARTER CARD:

### WHY TAKE ACTION?

#### EFFORT:



#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



## NEW ACTION | STARTER CARD:

### WHY TAKE ACTION?

#### EFFORT:



#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



## NEW ACTION | STARTER CARD:

### WHY TAKE ACTION?

#### EFFORT:



#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

### RESOURCES:

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Get together with your neighbours and conduct a neighbourhood inventory. **Reviewing the checklist** will help you understand your neighbourhood's current level of emergency preparedness, identify hazards, assess biodiversity, and understand local food options. It will also help you learn about the assets your neighbours can share, like skills, tools, and space.

Find a Neighbourhood Inventory Checklist template at: [edmonton.ca/climateneighbours](http://edmonton.ca/climateneighbours)

### NEXT UP!

This action helps to start all other cards!

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

### RESOURCES:

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

### RESOURCES:

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

**NEW ACTION | STARTER CARD:**

**WHY TAKE ACTION?**

**EFFORT:**



**SEASON:**



**TAGS:**



**NEW ACTION | STARTER CARD:**

**WHY TAKE ACTION?**

**EFFORT:**



**SEASON:**



**TAGS:**



**TOPIC CARD**

**P0**

# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

In an emergency, your quickest source of help is your neighbours. Getting to know your neighbours and preparing for emergencies together will help you act and recover more quickly. The action cards in this section will help you build that neighbour-to-neighbour connection.

**CHANGE FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

**LEVEL 1 | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

**P1**

## Review Neighbourhood Hazards



**WHY TAKE ACTION?**

In an emergency, dead branches, large puddles and other hazards can impact safety. Identifying and addressing hazards can improve neighbourhood resilience.

**EFFORT:**



**SEASON:**



**TAGS:**



## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

## RESOURCES:

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

## RESOURCES:

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

**Conduct an audit** of your neighbourhood to look for potential hazards like dead branches, local flooding, areas prone to extreme heat, etc. Repeat each season or assess changing conditions. Use the map template from the project website to help you get started with identifying areas of concern.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Prepare for Extreme Rainfall & Flooding (P6)
- Create an Emergency Plan (P11)

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

PILOT

## LEVEL 1 ACTIONS:

- Review Neighbourhood Hazards
- Learn First Aid Together

## LEVEL 2 ACTIONS:

- Prepare for Extreme Heat
- Be Ready for Extreme Cold
- Remove Ice & Snow from Sidewalks
- Prepare for Extreme Rainfall & Flooding
- Understand Air Quality
- Get Ready for High Winds
- Get Ready for Power Outages
- Conduct a Tree Assessment
- Create an Emergency Plan

## LEVEL 3 ACTIONS:

- Create Emergency Kits
- Create a Tool Library

Visit [edmonton.ca/climateneighbours](https://edmonton.ca/climateneighbours) for more resources for each action.



LEVEL 1 | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

P2

## Learn First Aid Together



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

Basic first aid applied before the arrival of emergency services can save lives. By undertaking first aid training, you can potentially save a loved one or neighbour and help in large scale emergencies.

#### EFFORT:



#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



LEVEL 2 | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

P3

## Prepare for Extreme Heat



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

Extreme heat events are expected to increase in frequency and severity in Edmonton. Planning for high temperatures can help a loved one or neighbour cool down and reduce the risks to health that heat poses.

#### EFFORT:



#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



LEVEL 2 | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

P4

## Be Ready for Extreme Cold



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

Even as temperatures warm, Edmonton can still expect periods of extreme cold in winter as low as -30°C or colder. Preparing for temperatures this low can reduce the risk for people and animals.

#### EFFORT:



#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



LEVEL 2 | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

P5

## Remove Ice & Snow from Sidewalks



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

Sidewalks, driveways, and pathways can get icy, risking falls and potentially serious injuries. Removing ice and snow can keep everyone safe.

#### EFFORT:



#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

**Check on neighbours**, seniors, and family members. Identify cooler, shadier spots on your block and locate and map accessible cool down stations in/near your community, such as libraries, recreation centres or community halls. Make sure everyone has access to fresh drinking water.

Help neighbours on your block to cover windows and weather strip doors and windows to **keep heat out**.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Prepare for Extreme Weather (eg. cold, rainfall, high winds) [P4, P6, P8]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Register as a group to **attend a course** offered by a first-aid provider. Potentially, if enough people are interested, the trainer can come to the neighbourhood and teach the course at someone's house or at a community space.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Create Emergency Kits [P12]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

**Identify the iciest locations** on your block and methods to improve traction. For example, make a 311 request, place warning signs and alternative routing or provide sand storage nearby.

**Reach out to neighbours** with mobility challenges to help manage ice on their property and assist them in traveling safely.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Prepare for Extreme Cold [P4]
- Conduct a Home Energy Assessment & Simple Home Upgrades [E2]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

**Check on neighbours**, seniors, and family members. Identify and share information about warming shelters with your neighbours.

Keep a winter **emergency kit in your car** in case you find yourself or others in need (eg. blanket, extra clothing, first aid kit, water, etc.). Avoid going outdoors or driving in bad conditions like icy roads or reduced visibility due to snow.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Prepare for Extreme Weather (eg. heat, rainfall, high winds) [P3, P6, P8]
- Conduct a Home Energy Assessment & Simple Home Upgrades [E2]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton



LEVEL 2 | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

P6

## Prepare for Extreme Rainfall & Flooding



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

Edmonton's annual precipitation is approximately 458mm. This is projected to increase over time, especially in spring and increase flooding.

Being prepared for major rainstorms or rapid snowmelt can help you and your neighbours avoid backed up drains and sewers and flooded basements.

#### EFFORT:



Medium

#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



LEVEL 2 | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

P7

## Understand Air Quality



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

Drier temperatures and lightning storms can increase the chances of forest fires locally, provincially and beyond. Smoky air can drift into Edmonton and linger for days. Poor air quality is harmful to health, but there are opportunities to minimize its impact.

#### EFFORT:



Low

#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



LEVEL 2 | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

P8

## Get Ready for High Winds



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

Edmonton can experience high winds at any time of the year. Wind poses risks to safety by blowing loose branches and materials. Being prepared can help you and your neighbours stay safe and reduce property damage.

#### EFFORT:



Medium

#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



LEVEL 2 | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

P9

## Get Ready for Power Outages



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

Power outages often accompany other emergencies. They can be caused by high winds blowing trees or branches into wires, or freezing rain adding weight to lines, causing them to break. In the worst cases, you could be left without power for several days. Having a plan will help you and your neighbours stay safe and comfortable.

#### EFFORT:



Medium

#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Learn about the **Air Quality Health Index (AQHI)** from the Government of Canada and what to do when the ratings are poor.

**Check-in on neighbours** who may have respiratory conditions that make them vulnerable to reduced air quality, especially seniors and young children. Remind neighbours to close their windows.

Identify community locations with air filter systems that you and your neighbours can access when air quality is high risk.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Create an Emergency Plan [P11]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Host a seasonal **eavestrough clearing** event with neighbours.

**Share information** about flood risks and brainstorm ideas to manage them.

After it rains, take a walk with your neighbours to **identify low points** where water is ponding or not draining properly and brainstorm potential solutions, such as clearing drains or contacting EPCOR to book a free flood prevention inspection.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Prepare for Extreme Weather (eg. heat, cold, high winds) [P3, P4, P8]
- Assess for Home Flooding [W5]
- Install a Rain Garden [W8]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Prepare **emergency kits** together and ensure everyone has warm clothes and blankets.

Identify who on your block has access to and is willing to share a backup **generator, BBQ, or camping stove**. Remember not all equipment is safe to use indoors. Always follow the manufacturer's recommendations.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Create Emergency Kits [P12]
- Get Ready for High Winds [P8]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

With your neighbours, **assess each others' homes** for loose shingles, siding, and gutters. To preventively remove dead and broken branches, call 311 for City-owned trees, an arborist for privately owned trees, and EPCOR for trees that are too close to power lines. Help ensure that bins, patio furniture, and other loose items on your block are secured.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Get Ready for Power Outages [P9]
- Conduct a Tree Assessment [P10]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

LEVEL 2 | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

P10

## Conduct a Tree Assessment



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

Trees enhance the beauty of our communities and our own wellbeing. It is important to maintain them and ensure their health to minimize the risk of trees becoming a hazard in an emergency.

#### EFFORT:

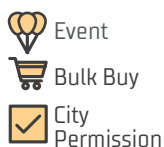


Medium

#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



LEVEL 2 | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

P11

## Create an Emergency Plan



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

Emergency situations can happen unexpectedly and put you and your neighbours at risk. Being prepared is an important way to improve your ability to respond and recover from a disaster.

#### EFFORT:



Medium

#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



LEVEL 3 | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

P12

## Create Emergency Kits



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

In an emergency, it can take days to restore servicing (power, water, telecommunications, etc.) and for businesses to reopen. Having emergency supplies for you, your loved ones, and your neighbours will help you prepare for any gaps in service.

#### EFFORT:



Medium

#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



LEVEL 3 | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

P13

## Create a Tool Library



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

Sharing resources, like tools, can help save money and support neighbours who don't have the space or skills to have their own. Knowing what tools your neighbours have can also help in an emergency situation.

#### EFFORT:



Medium

#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Create an **emergency plan** for your block that includes information about neighbourhood hazards in all seasons, what to do and where to meet in an emergency situation.

Plan how people will **communicate** with each other in the case of an emergency, especially when cell phones may not be working.

Print a **hard copy** in case you do not have internet access.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Create Emergency Kits [P12]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

**Check the trees** along your block for loose or dead branches and other hazards.

To determine if trees are private or City-owned, consult the City of Edmonton **Open Data Tree Map**, or call 311 to have Urban Forestry conduct a site visit. If they are City trees, you can request Urban Forestry conduct a hazard assessment and follow-up with pruning or other maintenance through 311. If they are not City-owned, pool funding to hire an arborist to assess and trim hazardous private trees. Call EPCOR for trees that are too close to power lines.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Review Neighbourhood Hazards [P1]
- Conduct an Ecosystem Assessment [B1]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Research if there are existing community tool libraries that you and your community can join.

If you want to start your own, **talk to your neighbours** and identify which tools people are willing to lend out, or buy tools together for shared use. Keep a list of available tools and who is using them or create an accessible community storage space.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Start a Repair Shed [W6]
- Start a Neighbourhood Fix-it Club [W7]
- Conduct a Home Energy Assessment & Simple Home Upgrades [E2]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

**Collect enough water, supplies,** and non-perishable food for each household (including pets) to live comfortably and safely for 72 hours or more. Conduct an inventory of the items that different neighbours have that could help in an emergency, such as generators, battery powered lights, and tools.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Create an Emergency Plan [P11]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

NEW ACTION | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

EFFORT:

SEASON:

TAGS:

NEW ACTION | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

EFFORT:

SEASON:

TAGS:

NEW ACTION | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

EFFORT:

SEASON:

TAGS:

NEW ACTION | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

EFFORT:

SEASON:

TAGS:

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**RESOURCES:**

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**RESOURCES:**

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**RESOURCES:**

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**RESOURCES:**

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

## NEW ACTION | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS:

### WHY TAKE ACTION?

#### EFFORT:



#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



## TOPIC CARD

B0

# BIODIVERSITY & ECOLOGY

Biodiversity is a part of healthy cities. A variety of healthy plants and animals support ecosystems, clean air, absorb water, pollinate plants, and more. The action cards in this category offer ways to encourage healthy habitats that support biodiversity with your neighbours by planting resilient species that can adapt to changing climate conditions, adding more trees, and supporting pollinator species like bees and butterflies.

## CHANGE FOR CLIMATE

Edmonton

## LEVEL 1 | BIODIVERSITY & ECOLOGY

B1

# Conduct an Ecosystem Assessment



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

Supporting ecosystems in our neighbourhoods aid natural ecological processes and build connected habitat for animals, pollinators, and plants. Conducting an assessment can help us understand the health of our local ecosystems, which help purify the air, cool down urban environments, and mitigate flooding.

#### EFFORT:



#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



## LEVEL 2 | BIODIVERSITY & ECOLOGY

B2

# Plant Food-Bearing & Resilient Species



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

As Edmonton's average temperature increases and summers become drier, drought-tolerant species will become increasingly important. Traditional lawns require significant water and upkeep. Instead, planting food-bearing, native, or drought resistant plants can amplify biodiversity and provide a more productive alternative to lawns.

#### EFFORT:



#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



PILOT

### LEVEL 1 ACTIONS:

- Conduct an Ecosystem Assessment

### LEVEL 2 ACTIONS:

- Plant Food-Bearing & Resilient Species
- Plant Trees
- Attract More Pollinators
- Use Your Leaves

Visit [edmonton.ca/climateneighbours](https://edmonton.ca/climateneighbours) for more resources for each action.



### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

### RESOURCES:

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

**Green your neighbourhood** and increase biodiversity by planting more edible plants and plants that are better suited to a warmer and drier climate, instead of lawns. Bulk buy plants with your neighbours to save money. In spring or fall, split and share hardy seeds, root stocks and bulbs. In the winter, try starting appropriate seeds indoors to transfer outside in the spring, or start an indoor herb garden.

Organize a **garden tour** of example gardens in the city to learn from others.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Learn How to Compost [W2]
- Start a Seed Exchange or Library [F5]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

**Map the natural systems** on your block with your neighbours. This could include identifying mature trees, connections between vegetated areas, native and non-native plants, and observed species of birds, insects, and other wildlife. Together, brainstorm how these natural systems could be better connected and supported.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Conduct a Tree Assessment [P10]
- Plant a Vegetable Garden [F4]
- Install a Rain Garden [W8]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton



LEVEL 2 | BIODIVERSITY & ECOLOGY

B3

## Plant Trees



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

Trees provide shade, improve air quality, reduce energy consumption, prevent erosion, and conserve water. Planting more trees can improve the quality of your neighbourhood's environment, create cooler spaces, and provide habitat.

#### EFFORT:



Low

#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



LEVEL 2 | BIODIVERSITY & ECOLOGY

B4

## Attract More Pollinators



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

Pollinator species (like insects and birds) are an essential part of a healthy ecosystem. Creating gardens to attract pollinators can help improve the health of natural areas, vegetation, and biodiversity across the neighbourhood and increase local biodiversity.

#### EFFORT:



Medium

#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



LEVEL 2 | BIODIVERSITY & ECOLOGY

B5

## Use Your Leaves



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

The leaves in your yard can add nutrients to your gardens' soil, retain moisture, and support good compost production. Think of leaves as a free resource that can help you and your neighbours save money and improve the health of your gardens.

#### EFFORT:



Low

#### SEASON:

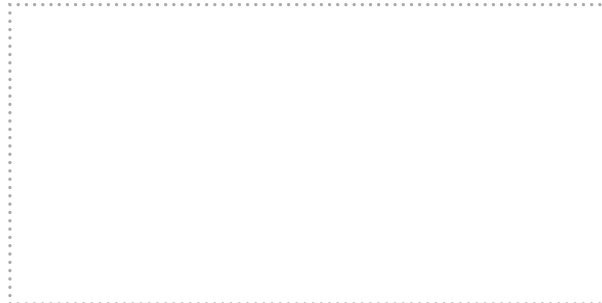


#### TAGS:



NEW ACTION | BIODIVERSITY & ECOLOGY:

### WHY TAKE ACTION?



#### EFFORT:



#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

**Host workshops** with neighbours to learn about pollinators, plant pollinator supportive plants, and/or build bee hotels, logs, or other pollinator habitats.

Bulk **purchase plants** from nurseries to reduce overall costs.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Use Your Leaves (B5)
- Learn How to Compost (W2)

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Talk to your neighbours to identify **good locations for new trees** and organize a tree planting event.

Bulk buy trees from a nursery or collect your **two free trees** from the City to plant on your block. Ensure the trees are a species that is well-suited to Edmonton's changing climate. If planting on public property, make sure to get permission from the City first. If planting on private property, ensure trees are located far enough away from important utilities and buildings to avoid potential damage.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Attract More Pollinators (B4)
- Install a Rain Barrel (W3)

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

### RESOURCES:

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Use leaves as **natural mulch/fertilizer** in your garden or compost pile, rather than raking up and bagging for collection by the City.

**Share your leaves** with neighbours for their gardens and compost.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Plant Food-Bearing & Resilient Species (B2)
- Start a Seed Exchange or Library (F5)
- Learn How to Compost (W2)

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

NEW ACTION | BIODIVERSITY & ECOLOGY:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

EFFORT:

SEASON:

TAGS:

NEW ACTION | BIODIVERSITY & ECOLOGY:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

EFFORT:

SEASON:

TAGS:

NEW ACTION | BIODIVERSITY & ECOLOGY:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

EFFORT:

SEASON:

TAGS:

NEW ACTION | BIODIVERSITY & ECOLOGY:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

EFFORT:

SEASON:

TAGS:

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**RESOURCES:**

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**RESOURCES:**

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**RESOURCES:**

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**RESOURCES:**

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

**TOPIC CARD** **F0**

# FOOD SECURITY

Food security supports all neighbours in accessing healthy, affordable food by encouraging growing and sharing food locally. The action cards in this category offer ways for you and your neighbours to increase your food security.

**CHANGE FOR CLIMATE** 

**LEVEL 1 | FOOD SECURITY** **F1**

## Create an Inventory of Food Gardens, Shrubs & Trees



**WHY TAKE ACTION?**  
Making an inventory of food-bearing plants and available spaces to plant food can benefit everyone. This can help build awareness of food resources, reduce food waste, and increase connection between neighbours.


**EFFORT:**  
  
Medium

**SEASON:**  



**TAGS:**  
 Low Cost  
 Family Friendly  
 Event


**LEVEL 1 | FOOD SECURITY** **F2**



## Join a Local Food Box Program



**WHY TAKE ACTION?**  
Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) helps support local food producers by providing a guaranteed income from members. Joining a program with your neighbours is a great way to access delicious local produce.


**EFFORT:**  
  
Low

**SEASON:**  



**TAGS:**  
 Family Friendly  
 Bulk Buy


**LEVEL 2 | FOOD SECURITY** **F3**


## Redistribute Food on the Block



**WHY TAKE ACTION?**  
It is common for households to have a surplus of food that they can't consume before it goes bad. Sharing surplus food amongst neighbours can help reduce waste, save money, and support neighbours through food redistribution.

**EFFORT:**  
  
Medium

**SEASON:**  


**TAGS:**  
 Low Cost

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

With your neighbours, **create a map** of food producing plants and trees on your block. Create a schedule of when food will be ready to harvest. At harvest time, let your neighbours know if you have excess fruit and vegetables and encourage your neighbours to share their extras.

**Identify available spaces** for planting food and let those looking for gardening space know.

**Make an inventory** of gardening tools/supplies that your neighbours are willing to share.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Plant a Vegetable Garden [F4]
- Start a Seed Exchange or Library [F5]
- Create a Tool Library [P13]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

## LEVEL 1 ACTIONS:

- Create an Inventory of Food Gardens, Shrubs & Trees
- Join a Local Food Box Program

## LEVEL 2 ACTIONS:

- Redistribute Food on the Block
- Plant a Vegetable Garden
- Start a Seed Exchange or Library

## LEVEL 3 ACTIONS:

- Host a Harvest Party/Potluck

Visit [edmonton.ca/climateneighbours](http://edmonton.ca/climateneighbours) for more resources for each action.



## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Team up with your neighbours to **exchange food** and gather any excess produce from garden spaces and trees. Consider setting aside 25% of the food grown for a food donation or recovery organization.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Start a Seed Exchange or Library [F5]
- Host a Harvest Party/Potluck [F6]
- Learn How to Compost [W2]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Join a local CSA or **food box program** with your neighbours to get local, in-season produce.

**Pick-up** or take turns picking up and delivering boxes for your neighbours to reduce travel.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Plant Food-Bearing & Resilient Species [B2]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

LEVEL 2 | FOOD SECURITY

F4

## Plant a Vegetable Garden



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

Growing your own vegetables can help you save money, eat healthier, reduce stress, and reduce carbon emissions and packaging waste.

#### EFFORT:



#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



LEVEL 2 | FOOD SECURITY

F5

## Start a Seed Exchange or Library



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

Sharing seeds can help you learn from other gardeners, save money, and increase the success of your garden. Sharing seeds and bulbs of pollinating plants can also improve biodiversity.

#### EFFORT:



#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



LEVEL 3 | FOOD SECURITY

F6

## Host a Harvest Party/Potluck



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

Making and sharing food is a great way to make connections with neighbours.

#### EFFORT:



#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



NEW ACTION | FOOD SECURITY:

### WHY TAKE ACTION?



#### EFFORT:



#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Save, store, and **share seeds or cuttings** with your neighbours to expand the amount of food that can be grown. Share plants that have done well in the area.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Host a Harvest Party/Potluck (F6)
- Buy in Bulk (W1)
- Attract More Pollinators (B4)

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Create **small garden beds** or container gardens throughout your block to provide fresh food. If you don't have space, find a community garden or a neighbour with extra space who would let you garden on their property.

Try to **water in the coolest part of the day** (early morning/evening) to reduce evaporation and conserve water.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Redistribute Food on the Block (F3)
- Install a Rain Barrel (W3)

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

### RESOURCES:

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Organize an event to **prepare and store food** (eg. canning, pickling, drying, etc.), either from local gardens or bulk bought produce.

Host a potluck to **share food** and exchange recipes and tips for how to reduce food waste and make the most out of the harvest.

Create an **annual event** where neighbours serve up "emergency food supplies" that are set to expire, and encourage everyone to replenish their supplies.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Start a Seed Exchange or Library (F5)
- Plan a Neighbourhood Swap (W4)
- Create Emergency Kits (P12)

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton



NEW ACTION | FOOD SECURITY:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

EFFORT:

SEASON:

TAGS:

NEW ACTION | FOOD SECURITY:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

EFFORT:

SEASON:

TAGS:

NEW ACTION | FOOD SECURITY:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

EFFORT:

SEASON:

TAGS:

NEW ACTION | FOOD SECURITY:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

EFFORT:

SEASON:

TAGS:

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**RESOURCES:**

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**RESOURCES:**

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**RESOURCES:**

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**RESOURCES:**


**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

**TOPIC CARD** EO

# ENERGY & FUEL SAVINGS

Improving energy efficiency can reduce greenhouse gas emissions and lower energy and fuel bills. This category provides action cards that encourage neighbours to work together to try alternative transportation modes and retrofit their homes to include renewable energy sources.

**CHANGE FOR CLIMATE** 

**LEVEL 1 | ENERGY & FUEL SAVINGS** E1

## Commute Sustainably



**WHY TAKE ACTION?**

Using alternative modes of transportation, like walking, cycling, or transit, can help boost your physical and mental health, save money, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.


**EFFORT:**   
Low

**SEASON:**    
 

**TAGS:**  Low Cost  
 Family Friendly


**LEVEL 2 | ENERGY & FUEL SAVINGS** E2





## Conduct a Home Energy Assessment & Simple Home Upgrades





**WHY TAKE ACTION?**

An energy assessment will identify the most effective ways to improve your home's energy efficiency. An energy efficient home can increase the comfort of your home while reducing energy bills and greenhouse gas emissions.

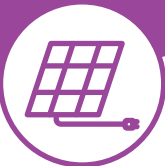
**EFFORT:**   
Medium

**SEASON:**    
 

**TAGS:**  Event  
 Bulk Buy


**LEVEL 3 | ENERGY & FUEL SAVINGS** E3





## Install Renewable Energy



**WHY TAKE ACTION?**

Solar photovoltaics (PV) perform better in cold temperatures than warm, making Edmonton an ideal location with its sunny days, even in winter. Installing solar PV can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and dependency on fossil fuels while saving you money on your energy bills.

**EFFORT:**   
High

**SEASON:**    
 

**TAGS:** None

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Plan trips with neighbours for work, leisure, children's activities, and even groceries. You can improve safety, build community connections, save money and reduce greenhouse gas emissions when you **carpool, use public transit, walk, or cycle** together.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Buy in Bulk (W1)
- Start a Neighbourhood Fix-it Club (W7)

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

## LEVEL 1 ACTIONS:

- Commute Sustainably

## LEVEL 2 ACTIONS:

- Conduct a Home Energy Assessment & Simple Home Upgrades

## LEVEL 3 ACTIONS:

- Install Renewable Energy

Visit [edmonton.ca/climateneighbours](https://edmonton.ca/climateneighbours) for more resources for each action.



## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Work together to **identify locations** such as home and garage rooftops for installing solar PV. Hire one professional for installations to potentially save through economies of scale.

Volunteer to research government rebates available. Search the City of Edmonton for "solar energy" for links to installers, solar maps and more. Share what you find with your neighbours.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Conduct A Home Energy Assessment & Simple Home Upgrades (E2)
- Assess for Home Flooding (W5)

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Identify all neighbours who have not had an **energy assessment** of their home. Hire one professional to conduct the service to save money.

Compare results and conduct **minor home improvements** like sealing windows and doors together. Have someone with the skills teach others the "how-tos". For tasks requiring a contractor, work together to secure services. Research government rebates and share what you find.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Be Ready for Extreme Cold (P4)
- Install Renewable Energy (E3)
- Create a Tool Library (P13)
- Start a Neighbourhood Fix-it Club (W7)

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

NEW ACTION | ENERGY & FUEL SAVINGS:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

EFFORT:

SEASON:

TAGS:

NEW ACTION | ENERGY & FUEL SAVINGS:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

EFFORT:

SEASON:

TAGS:

NEW ACTION | ENERGY & FUEL SAVINGS:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

EFFORT:

SEASON:

TAGS:

NEW ACTION | ENERGY & FUEL SAVINGS:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

EFFORT:

SEASON:

TAGS:

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**RESOURCES:**

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**RESOURCES:**

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**RESOURCES:**

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**RESOURCES:**

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

NEW ACTION | ENERGY & FUEL SAVINGS:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

EFFORT:

SEASON:

TAGS:

TOPIC CARD

WASTE & WATER

Local actions can make a big difference in how waste and water are managed, used, and disposed of. The action cards in this category provide ways for you and your neighbours to reduce waste, share resources, and conserve water.


CHANGE FOR CLIMATE

Edmonton

LEVEL 1 | WASTE & WATER

W1

Buy in Bulk



WHY TAKE ACTION?

While buying too much can be wasteful, buying in bulk has its benefits, especially when coordinated with others. Benefits include reducing packaging waste, saving money, saving time, and saving gas money by making fewer trips to the store.

EFFORT:

Low

SEASON:

TAGS:


Low Cost

Bulk Buy

LEVEL 1 | WASTE & WATER

W2

Learn How to Compost



WHY TAKE ACTION?

Composting creates a nutrient resource for gardens, limiting the need for fossil fuel fertilizers. Composting reduces greenhouse gas emissions by reducing the amount of food and garden waste transported to landfills.

EFFORT:

Low

SEASON:

TAGS:

Low Cost

Family Friendly

PILOT

### LEVEL 1 ACTIONS:

- Buy in Bulk
- Learn How to Compost

### LEVEL 2 ACTIONS:

- Install a Rain Barrel
- Plan a Neighbourhood Swap
- Assess for Home Flooding

### LEVEL 3 ACTIONS:

- Start a Repair Shed
- Start a Neighbourhood Fix-it Club
- Install a Rain Garden

Visit [edmonton.ca/climateneighbours](http://edmonton.ca/climateneighbours) for more resources for each action.



### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

### RESOURCES:

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Learn how to use the **City Food Scraps Cart** system to sort compostables out of your regular garbage. Help neighbours who may be unfamiliar with the program.

Create a collective composting system. Join the City's **Master Composter Program** with your neighbours to learn how to compost effectively. Encourage neighbours to both contribute and use the compost generated.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Use Your Leaves [B5]
- Attract More Pollinators [B4]
- Plant Food-Bearing & Resilient Species [B2]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Take your own containers to **buy home goods** from a bulk/refill shop and share amongst neighbours.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Redistribute Food on the Block [F3]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton



LEVEL 2 | WASTE & WATER

W3

## Install a Rain Barrel



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

A rain barrel can reduce the amount of water that flows onto your property and provide free water to use in your yard.

#### EFFORT:



Medium

#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



LEVEL 2 | WASTE & WATER

W4

## Plan a Neighbourhood Swap



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

A neighbourhood swap is an opportunity to collect unused items and trade them for things you need or like. Save money by exchanging goods with your neighbours and avoid throwing away items that may benefit someone else.

#### EFFORT:



Low

#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



LEVEL 2 | WASTE & WATER

W5

## Assess for Home Flooding



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

Climate projections show that Edmonton can expect increases in heavy rainfall leading to overland flooding. Home flooding can lead to significant stress for homeowners, insurance claims, loss and disposal of personal property, repairs, and more. Neighbours can work together to ensure that everyone is prepared in advance.

#### EFFORT:



High

#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



LEVEL 3 | WASTE & WATER

W6

## Start a Repair Shed



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

Creating a way to work together on projects and repairs can help you save money, reduce waste, and get to know your neighbours. A repair shed can be someone's garage or a common space with tools and resources.

#### EFFORT:



High

#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Organize a **'swap' event** with your neighbours to trade clothing, household items, toys, etc. Set up a local location for people to drop-off supplies they no longer need. Organize a trip to a donation centre for left over items after the swap.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Host a Harvest Party/Potluck [F6]
- Start a Seed Exchange or Library [F5]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

With your neighbours, buy **rain barrels** and have an installation event to set them up. Set up your rain barrels in time to collect excess rain in spring, for use during the drier days of summer.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Plant a Vegetable Garden [F4]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Find a space on your block where neighbours can gather and work together to repair items. Space like an unused shed can work well. Work together to fix it up as a space for repairs.

**Host workshops and share skills** with neighbours to learn how to fix bikes, household items, etc.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Create a Tool Library [P13]
- Conduct a Home Energy Assessment & Simple Home Upgrades [E2]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Inform each other about the potential **damages of heavy rainfall** and how to prepare in advance. Actions include sloping your yards away from your home, clearing eavestroughs, installing rain barrels, confirming sump pumps and backwater valves are functional, storing basement belongings in water proof bins, and confirming insurance is up-to-date. Search EPCOR's flood prevention maintenance and programs for tips and assistance.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Install a Rain Garden [W8]
- Conduct a Home Energy Assessment & Simple Home Upgrades [E2]

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

LEVEL 3 | WASTE & WATER

W7

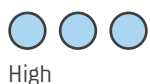
## Start a Neighbourhood Fix-it Club



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

A fix-it club allows you to learn new skills, reduce waste, and connect with neighbours.

#### EFFORT:



#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



LEVEL 3 | WASTE & WATER

W8

## Install a Rain Garden



### WHY TAKE ACTION?

A rain garden is a sunken area with native shrubs and flowers that helps to collect rain and melted snow to reduce stormwater runoff. Installing a rain garden with your neighbours can protect homes from water damage, reduce the need to mow and water a lawn, and increase biodiversity.

#### EFFORT:



#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



NEW ACTION | WASTE & WATER:

### WHY TAKE ACTION?

#### EFFORT:



#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



NEW ACTION | WASTE & WATER:

### WHY TAKE ACTION?

#### EFFORT:



#### SEASON:



#### TAGS:



### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

With your neighbours, plan and install a **rain garden** on your block. Search EPCOR's website for their guide to build a rain garden.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Attract More Pollinators (B4)
- Assess for Home Flooding (W5)

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PILOT

Create a **regular meeting** time and place for people to share knowledge, fix things, and/or use waste products to build new items or art.

**NEXT UP!** This action works well with...

- Create a Tool Library (P13)
- Plan a Neighbourhood Swap (W4)
- Start a Repair Shed (W6)

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

### RESOURCES:

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

### RESOURCES:

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

NEW ACTION | WASTE & WATER:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

EFFORT:

SEASON:

TAGS:

NEW ACTION | WASTE & WATER:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

EFFORT:

SEASON:

TAGS:

NEW ACTION | WASTE & WATER:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

EFFORT:

SEASON:

TAGS:

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**RESOURCES:**

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**RESOURCES:**

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**RESOURCES:**

**CHANGE  
FOR CLIMATE**

Edmonton