

SNA's Environment & Open Spaces Program

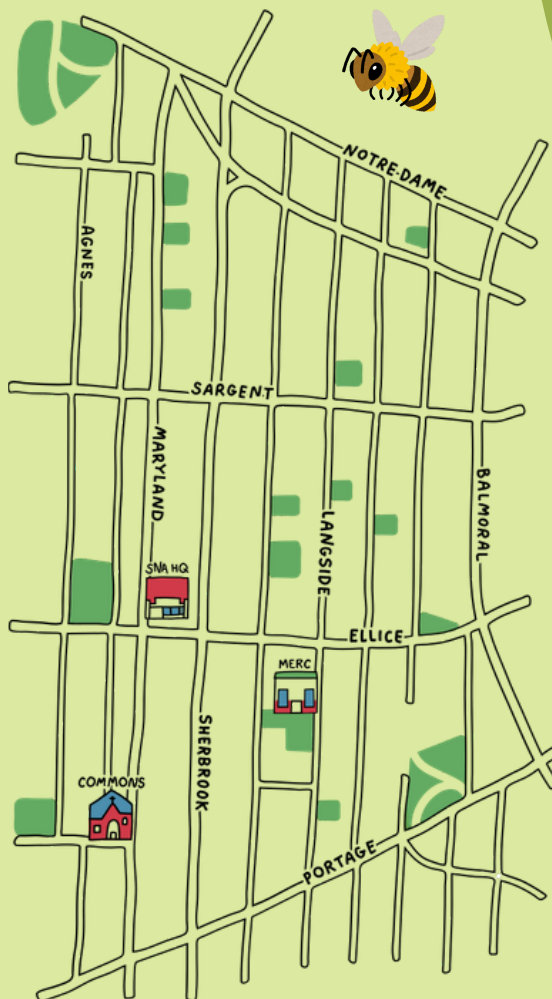
The Environment & Open Spaces program improves green spaces for community members to grow their own food, share traditional knowledge, find cooling shade during hot summer days, and to reduce our neighbourhood's carbon footprint!

SNA's Garden Spaces:

- 350 Agnes St. "Agnes Green Space"
- 683 Agnes St.
- 437 Furby St. "Building Belonging Kids' Garden"
- 547 Furby St. "L'espoir du Demain"
- 559 Langside St.
- 607 Langside St. "Ashley Hudson Memorial"
- 637 Maryland St. "Sunshine Garden"
- 689 Maryland St. "Co-op Community Greenhouse"
- 485 Young St. "Sheba's Paradise"

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Growing Shade with SNA

Growing shade plants can lower your energy costs, increase comfort, and help the local environment!



The Benefits of Growing Shade



Financial

- Shade can reduce a home's energy used for cooling (like a/c units).
Less energy = lower bills!
- Growing shade on your property can increase curb appeal, which boosts renter and resale value!



Comfort

- Shade can help keep buildings cooler and more comfortable in the hot summer months!
- Green facades dampen outside sounds and make the first floor of apartments or houses feel quieter!
- Studies from Montreal show that neighbourhoods with at least 10% (or more) plant cover can feel up to 10 degrees cooler during hot summer days!

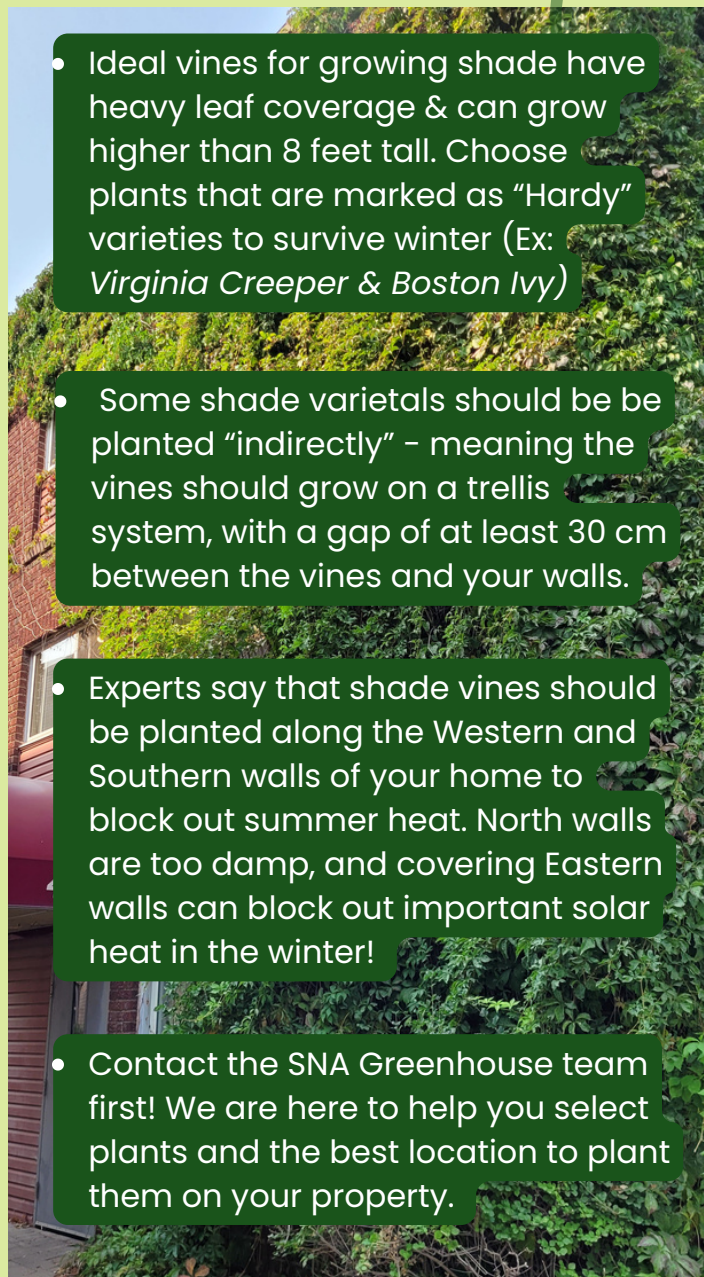


Environmental

- Shade plants can help improve local air quality & feed local pollinators like SNA's honey bees!



How-To-Grow Guidelines:



- Ideal vines for growing shade have heavy leaf coverage & can grow higher than 8 feet tall. Choose plants that are marked as "Hardy" varieties to survive winter (Ex: *Virginia Creeper* & *Boston Ivy*)
- Some shade varieties should be planted "indirectly" - meaning the vines should grow on a trellis system, with a gap of at least 30 cm between the vines and your walls.
- Experts say that shade vines should be planted along the Western and Southern walls of your home to block out summer heat. North walls are too damp, and covering Eastern walls can block out important solar heat in the winter!
- Contact the SNA Greenhouse team first! We are here to help you select plants and the best location to plant them on your property.

Common Questions

If shade vines help keep my house cool in the summer, will shade vines make my house feel colder in the winter?

- Not if they are planted in the right place! The leaves of shade vines will die back in the winter and let in the sun.

Will Vines damage my property?

- Not if they are properly maintained and monitored! Regular maintenance & pruning will keep the vines from growing into the siding.
- Remember: Vines should be planted at least 30 CM away from the base of your walls!

How Much Will It Cost Me?

- It depends! SNA is working to offer vine plants at no cost, but the trellis systems needed depend on the size of the wall you want to shade. *Reach out to SNA to learn more!*

SNA & MbEN assume no responsibility for damages to property caused by improperly and/or poorly maintained vines, and take no responsibility for ensuring regular maintenance is completed