

# GROW YOUR GARDEN CITY



**EBBSFLEET**  
**GARDEN CITY**

# BECOME AN EBBSFLEET GARDEN CITY GROWER

This guide has been developed to encourage and inform residents of Ebbsfleet Garden City, the benefits of utilising private open space, whether you have a garden, balcony or just want to make your home more green!

Find out more about encouraging wildlife into your garden, the benefits of house plants and how to get involved in the Garden City's allotment and edible garden opportunities at our website: [designforebbsfleet.org](https://designforebbsfleet.org)



Share your gardening photos using #growyourgarden & tag us on Instagram, Twitter or Facebook @ebbsfleetgardencity



# SUSTAINABLY MANAGING WATER

Managing the consumption of water has never been more important, with longer summers and warmer climates it is important to start thinking of simple steps to reduce individual water consumption and conserve it where possible.



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### TOP TIPS TO SAVE WATER IN YOUR GARDEN:

#### **Plant a Tree**

By planting 1,2 or even 3 trees in you garden it will reduce levels of CO<sub>2</sub>, increase evaporation of water and provide areas of shade and shelter.

#### **Get a water butt**

Capture rainwater into tanks for use around the garden. Use the collected water for watering plants, car washing or toilet flushing.

#### **Let your lawn grow..**

You might not need to cut your grass as much as you think! Cutting your grass to 3 inches or longer improves lawn health & reduces water runoff.

#### **Plants plants plants!**

Plants in your garden will help to store rainwater, increase evaporation & transpiration.

#### **Build Your Own Rain Garden!**

Help to reduce flooding by planting your own rain garden.

Visit:

[designforebbsfleetdc.org](http://designforebbsfleetdc.org)

To find out how to build your own rain garden.

# ALLOTMENTS

Allotments are a great way to get outdoors, meet new people in your neighbourhood and encourage healthy eating! Connecting with nature is a great way to improve health and well-being, loneliness and obesity.



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### REASONS TO HAVE AN ALLOTMENT:

1. Exercise
2. Sense of community
3. Help the environment
4. You eat more fruit & veg!
5. Saves you money!

At Ebbsfleet we are designing a series of community garden spaces alongside allotments for those that do not feel an allotment will be manageable.

### Would you like to get involved?

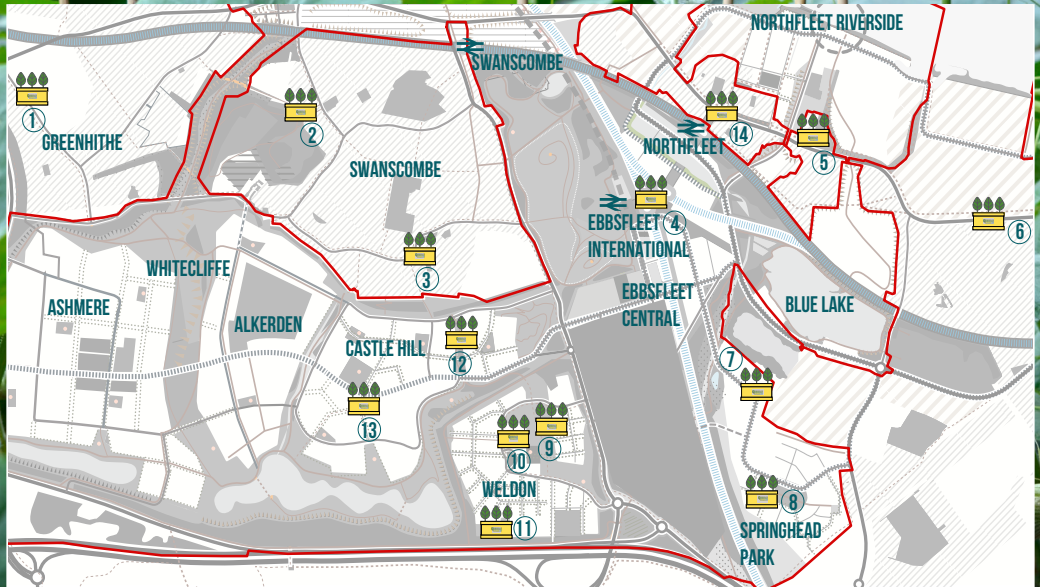
Keep an eye out on our website for new allotments coming soon to Springhead Park and Ebbsfleet Green.

Keep updated at: [ebbsfleetdc.org.uk](http://ebbsfleetdc.org.uk)



# EDIBLE EBBSFLEET

Edible Ebbsfleet is a community movement led by local residents, pupils, and workers. They support each other to develop a series of small scale food growing initiatives along local streets, parks & gardens encouraging neighbours to pick, cook and eat the produce. The movement is supported by Ebbsfleet Garden City Healthy New Town in partnership with NHS England and aims both to transform the image of communities and to promote the health benefits of growing and eating fresh fruit and vegetables.



Have an idea? But don't have the space?

**We want to hear from you!**

[contactebbsfleetdc@ebbsfleetdc.org.uk](mailto:contactebbsfleetdc@ebbsfleetdc.org.uk)

Edible Ebbsfleet  
**GROW.**  
**EAT.**  
**THRIVE.**

## 14 EDIBLE EBBSFLEET LOCATIONS

- 1 - St. Mary Church, Greenhithe
- 2 - Craylands School, Swanscombe
- 3 - St. Peter and St Paul Church, Swanscombe
- 4 - Ebbsfleet International Station
- 5 - Lawn Primary School, Northfleet
- 6 - Rosherville Primary School, Northfleet
- 7 - Springhead Community Garden & Allotments –coming soon!
- 8 - Eastgate, Springhead Park
- 9 - Ebbsfleet Green
- 10 - Ebbsfleet Green Primary School, Ebbsfleet Green

- 11 - Ebbsfleet Green Community Garden & Allotments – coming soon!
- 12 - Mercer Avenue, Castle Hill
- 13 - Cherry Orchard Primary School, Castle Hill
- 14 - No Walls Garden, St. Botolph Church, Northfleet

*Ebbsfleet is inspired by the 'Incredible Edible Network' which aims to create kind, confident and connected communities through the power of food.*

**Find out more at: [incredibleedible.org](http://incredibleedible.org).**

# GREENING YOUR HOME

Increasing the range and types of plants that you plant in and around your home is important, as it supports a range of ecosystems that supply oxygen, clean air and water.



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### TOP TIPS TO ATTRACT WILDLIFE TO YOUR HOME:

#### **Make a Home**

Add a bat box to your roof. A box will provide a home for these creatures to safely roost.  
Find out more at: [rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife](http://rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife)

#### **Help Birds!**

Add a bird feeder or nest box to your garden or wall.

#### **Butterfly Friendly Plants:**

Buddleja    Honeysuckle  
Hebe        Lavender  
Sedums     Verbena

#### **Get your garden buzzing..**

Adding pollinator plants is the solution to attracting bees. Look out for this sign to make sure your garden is bee friendly.

Find out more at: [schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk](http://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk)



#### **Hedgehog Highway**

Ensuring a hedgehog can pass through your garden is very important! A 13cm x13cm hole in your fence is all they need.

Find out more at: [hedgehogstreet.org](http://hedgehogstreet.org)



# MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR HOME & BALCONY

Not having a garden does not mean you are limited when it comes to growing plants or creating a place for biodiversity to thrive. House plants are a very simple, but effective way of brightening the home, increasing oxygen levels, as well as boosting well-being and reducing stress levels.



## 3 TIPS FOR GREENING BALCONIES

### **Hanging Pots**

Add hanging pots to your balcony ceiling or railing. A way of adding plants without taking up floor space.

### **Grow your own herbs**

Find a wooden crate or a large pot, add soil, place your favourite herbs inside and watch them grow!

### **Grow climbing plants..**

along your railing or wall in troughs or pots. Choose flowering plants that bees and butterflies will love. This will also create more privacy.



## 3 OF THE BEST HOUSE PLANTS FOR IMPROVING AIR QUALITY

### **Aloe Vera**

This plant is essential to have in any home. Known for its healing properties, it will soothe any burns, whilst purifying the air of toxins found in detergents and varnishes.

### **Boston Fern**

These plants are known for their air purifying abilities, removing pollutants from car exhausts. Perfect if you live by a busy road.

### **Spider Plant**

These plants filter airborne toxins from air in your home. This is also a perfect for house plant newbies as they are very resilient.

# EXPLORE YOUR LOCAL GARDEN CENTRES



## Millbrook Garden Centre

### Where can you find us?

Station Road, Southfleet,  
Gravesend, Kent, DA13 9PA

### What can you find here?

Selection of quality plants, shrubs & trees  
Houseplants  
Pets & Birdcare  
The Mill Restaurant  
Kids' Events & Adult Workshops  
Garden Furniture  
Homewares, Gifts & Clothing  
Swallows Aquatics Centre

## Springhead Nurseries

### Where can you find us?

Watling Street, Gravesend, Kent,  
DA11 8AA

### What can you find here?

A selection of quality plants, shrubs & trees.

