Why Garden

Elaine
She still gardens because she likes the space it ... peaceful garden.

Sylvia
She likes gardening because it's physical, she doesn't get a lot of exercise otherwise.

Tactile aspect (getting into the dirt) and rewarding seeing what will happen (you never know what it will do).

Jocelyn & Miles
Miles likes spending time "down-low" with the plants – looking at them, getting that cool-earthy feel that gardening gives.

Rebecca
Started gardening because -environment reasons, we should produce own food -likes organic food, cheaper to produce own -it's fun to watch things grow, see things happen

Cathy
(Despite difficulty keeping plants alive) still gardens because it's a challenge. It's a self-exploration exercise where she tries to figure out why she does the things she does when she gardens. She learns about her decision-making and planning habits.

Cathy
Finds plants novel in that they keep doing interesting things. She likes to see what a plant will do (even if what it's doing is dying).

Cathy
There's potential inherit in the plant." She likes seeing what they will do.

Expertise & Time

Rebecca
When she was in high school, she thought she was going to go into horticulture. ... High enthusiasm not quite matched by effort.

Elaine
Likes the accessibility of her place: close to bus routes on Hastings, close to ...

Gardening isn't main hobby. Enjoys the outdoors in general; sports; bicycling

Jocelyn & Miles
Jocelyn likes to bike, read, and is involved in New West downtown resident's association. She tries to be engaged with the community.

going to quit and become a gardener. Her co-workers laugh at her.

Revel
She spends about 8 hours a week gardening. This includes time ...

3-4 hours/week

Rebecca
She likes to rock climb, hike, skim board, bike and do outdoors activities.

Goes to gym as a stress reliever. Has been weight training lately.

Jocelyn & Miles
Miles likes ... plants, thinks ... at the groceries. Jocelyn just something ... as different.

Unique/ novelty/ interesting plants

Cathy
She likes unusual plants. Ones ...

morning).

organization, going to interior design shows, etc.

Rebecca
Might work on garden 1-3 hours a week, maybe half an hour a day at most.

Elaine
She'd like to have a fancier garden than what she has, but doesn't want to put in many hours into gardening, because she likes doing so many other things.

Sylvia
She does "outdoorsy" stuff in the spring and summer.

Background

Cathy
Lived in a shared house ...

Fairly new to the space (w/in past 5 years); renovations a common theme. Gardening spaces all seem to have some unique challenges. Don't really seem to know neighbors.

Rebecca
She's a project manager for marketing projects at the Sauder school of business.

Revel
Stay-at-home mom with 3-year old and husband.

Jocelyn & Miles
Jocelyn is an interaction designer, currently looking for work. Miles is an interactive artist, student and teacher.

Sylvia
Lives with husband and 7-year old daughter.

Jocelyn & Miles
Married ~2 years ago, no children, in their early 30s.

She quit her day job in 2007. Since then, income is predominantly from renting rooms in her house to international people.

She also does odd jobs here and there.

Revel
IIn most cases, it's one person who has the main interest in gardening...somewhat of a solo activity.

Sylvia
The garden is her domain. Her husband has has fever so he doesn't help much.

Sylvia
If she's outside when her husband comes home from work, he'll take care of their daughter while she has "her" time.

Jocelyn & Miles
Miles has a bit of ... Interest in food: farmer's markets, canning/jamming

gardening: vegetables and fruit. Very productive – canning spreas and they give away a lot of food.

Jocelyn & Miles
Also disappointed in developers lack of interest in public arts.

Revel
She likes recycling and being creative; it's exciting for her.

Cathy
Dabbles in pottery, occasionally gets into other ...

Creative aspect/ Artsy interests too.

Technology-based interactive art installations. He enjoys spending time with Jocelyn and cooking. He also works with electronic as a hobby. Ideas of hobby and work gets mixed up.

Jocelyn & Miles
They keep the worm composter in a storage closet. Have a bag of dried leaves collected in the fall to maintain it. Collected leaves because they ... maple leaves use.

Revel
She's been ... Chip bags are sealer to see a large reflective ...

Revel
This year she saved new bags that tomatoes come to use as a hanging new peas. It didn't work out ...

Rebecca
She used to fertilize with worm composter. Bought it for part year, she used Miracle-Gro slow release kernels. She didn't like doing this because they probably have hasty chemicals in them.

Revel
This year she has been putting aside recyclables to use as cloches in the spring.

They have a worm composter. Bought it for $25, including a workshop on how to use it. Thought it was a good deal compared to $100 for the same in Australia.

worm composter for ... 2 years. Kept it outside on balcony. One winter it was too cold and all worms died.

"balance" with it – it created a lot of fruit fly ...

Not from Vancouver originally (smaller town). Couple (married soon?) Townhouse (sm. house?) with a small yard. Been there for almost 4 years Did renovations - on & off project Enjoys hiking, biking, rock climbing Farmer's Markets & Cooking

Rebecca
She doesn't own a car. Bikes and takes the bus.

Rebecca
composts for ... vironment reasons – the ... we can decrease the amount of garbage we produce – the better.

Environmentally conscious (produce own food, composting, recycling/repurposing for garden)

Rebecca
She'd like to have drop-off compost in her neighborhood: to be able to deal with compost like she deals with her garbage. Would be awesome to get the compost back.

Rebecca
Currently keeps compost in freezer, it's a lot of work to do so.

Family / Friends

Rebecca
Her family is all in Ontario and the Okanagan.

Cathy
Has lived in ... since the ... from Kamloops and never ...

Cathy
Grew up in ... Parents and ... brother + family still live there.

Rebecca
Sister and husband are organic small-scale farmers and have a lot of knowledge about where to get organic and heirloom seeds.

Rebecca
She learns a lot from her sister, who is a herbologist (and organic "rockstar" gardener). If she has questions, she'll look online or ask her.

Jocelyn & Miles
She grew up in Kamloops ... s very different climate. Jocelyn's parents have ... garden beds at their ... Kamloops. This ... garden is doing

Family members (mother/father or sibling) often garden, but they don't live in town. Maybe a bit of "generation gap" or different interests as well?

Jocelyn & Miles
... ocks flowers in ... " and is more ... an her father, ... ts do what

Rebecca
Her family in Ontario are gardeners: food and cut flowers.

Sylvia
Besides her sister, no other family members / friends garden. Her mom lives in an apartment (she used to ... garden). Her husband has ...

Rebecca
... s sort of always ... ardened. Parents were ... ich immigrants to ... Lived in small town ... everyone had big ... They've almost ... s had a garden.

Sylvia
When they moved, they kept of wanted a garden for her daughter, but she wasn't consciously thinking about or planning for one.

Jocelyn & Miles
Miles notes that in Copenhagen, he saw way more children ... Thought it ... bike culture ... don't here ... children mu ... West).

Children & gardening

Jocelyn & Miles
Know there are quite a few kids in the building – saw mob of them leaving on Halloween.

Sylvia
Started gardening because she thought it would be something she could do with her daughter. Now her daughter isn't interested, so it's become her own break, "mom-time".

Jocelyn & Miles
They are thinking of having children soon and the ... a garden for ... to learn from, eat

Jocelyn & Miles
Ideas of ... because children can play with the plant without getting hurt (unlike blackberries with thorns).

Gen Behaviors

Success at the beginning is important

The hardest thing about gardening: getting things to actually grow.

Revel
Thought she was a bad gardener when plants at Bi... B&B didn't do well.

Revel
Now, if something goes wrong, she understands that there must be a reason for it, not that she's a bad gardener.

Rebecca
She likes to focus on plants that grow food. A tree would be cool, but it would have to be a ... she would be confidence ... work. (Ex: ...

Common starting point/entry into gardening. Gardening for food can be easier because sometimes comes with problems, esp. with maintenance and shade.

Sylvia
In her garden ... / buses, but ... few tomato ... this year.

Other side of yard is sunnier, she has a few apple trees. She is from ... and an "old" species.

Cathy
Started gardening when she decided that she wanted to grow something to eat on balcony – tomatoes. She never ate the tomatoes; she would grow a little to eat, but then just touch and smell it instead.

Sylvia
Changing garden: she throws plants in, sees how it grows and is eventually tossed ... attached to throw out / update garden. The tree with ... on the short-l...

Trial/error rather than experimented. ... know what should do but doesn't necessarily do it.

Learn as you go

Elaine
Doesn't remem... failures ... there ... Learning ... conditions of her yard via trail and error. Ex: planted a mountain ash in the front, but did not dig deep enough hole and add good soil. Now tree is struggling. This year, planted a tree in backyard and bought new soil.

Cathy
She likes novelty, tasting and trying new things. She likes the sensory experience. Used to pride herself on ... she could eat

... ing: last year ... a community ... wing the exact ... it as her in the ... but less soil ... r wheat grew ... g. She dedicated ... at soil depth matters.

Elaine
When she decides to do something, she goes in and learns as she goes along. Does this because if she gets into something, she's committed to finish it.

Jocelyn & Miles
For installing boxes: got advice as they went along. Some things just made sense and others, they learned from previous experience.

How plants are chosen

Rebecca
... ing: Gardening ... ing ... ing ... ing