

## CATEGORY 3: URBAN GARDENING – CREATIVE GARDENING IN THE CITY



### **TOWN OF Waidhofen an der Ybbs (AT, since 2015) KOST.BARES Waidhofen**

The initiative “kost.bares” Waidhofen brings a piece of nature into the town, as well as a garden for all. It was launched with the purpose to illustrate openness, closeness to nature and quality of life of the town located on the Ybbs river. Additionally, the areas offer a space for awareness-raising and simple learning processes with gardeners and biologists. The heartpiece of this project is the Citizens’ Garden. Formerly a mayor’s garden and small park in the town centre, this piece of nature has been converted into a nibbling garden for everyone, where fruits, vegetables and herbs can be jointly grown and harvested. The focus is on old types of fruits and rare plants. The city gardener cares for the plants together with the Lower Austrian Centre for the care and promotion of people with cognitive disabilities, ensuring regular care. Right in the town centre, there are further green oases: vegetable and herb troughs in front of kindergartens and schools, where pupils are involved. The community gardens named „Zell” and „Krautberg”, which already served vegetable cultivation in the past and also offer an educational trail on bees, await their visitors with garden parcels for rent, small fireplaces, as well as seating opportunities. For raising awareness for ecological gardening, workshops are held at regular intervals: products from the town, such as apple juice, Waidhofen Organic Soil, and town honey are fruits of the labour, and incomes generated from these products are donated to charity.

EUROPEAN  
AWARD  
FOR  
ECOLOGICAL  
GARDENING



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