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War Over Toronto's 1st Community Orchard

The war over Toronto's 1st community orchard is an interesting story for Landscape Architects because of its underlying tale about the times we live in.

Riding on the ideology of the [100 mile diet](#), [a plan was drafted to rim the park](#) that protects Cedarvale from the Allen Road with 40 fruit trees including: apricots, serviceberries, hickories, plums, pears, cherries, and pawpaw:

The payoffs were obvious: protective trees that soak up carbon dioxide and provide shade, organic food that could be delivered by foot, and community engagement. They envisioned a huge harvest table that could seat 20, blossom festivals and cider-pressing parties.

Neighbours warred over the fear of rotten fruit, wild animals, a darker path through the park and the loss of green space until the proposal was cut down by 13 trees.

"At the end of the day, the park will be a modest first community orchard in the city of Toronto," he says. "That's something we can frankly be proud of."

Update: For further information on Toronto's first community orchard, visit [Toronto Community Orchard News](#).

- Sandra Bekhor, Toronto
President, Bekhor Management

