

## **The Netherlands: The Tuinpark Buikslotermeer in Amsterdam**

### **The Value of allotment garden parks for a town, the example of De Tuinpark Buikslotermeer for Amsterdam.**

#### **GARDENERS**

At Leisure Garden Park Buikslotermeer in Amsterdam, 246 gardeners garden together with family and friends. It's an important place for city-dwellers to relax, work together and be creative. Every gardener has his own way of gardening and therefore the diversity is very large in all respects.

#### **THE COMMON GREEN**

The Garden Park Committee and the Natural Gardening working group collaborate together with the gardeners to maintain the common greenery. Every Saturday morning they work together on the maintenance and nature-friendly management of the garden park. On these mornings they pass on their knowledge to each other. For example: how to build a butterfly garden, forest and grass paths, a natural playground, insect hotels, beehives, wild plant boxes and seating areas.

#### **THE NATURAL GARDEN WORKING GROUP**

This working group consists of approximately 25 volunteers. They promote the objective of the Dutch Association of Leisure Gardeners (AVVN) to environmentally and nature-friendly management of garden parks. They do this by guiding, informing and enthusing the gardeners on Saturday mornings, and in their Saturday afternoon program.

#### **VALUE TO THE NEIGHBOURHOOD**

Most of the activities at leisure garden park Buikslotermeer reach out to our neighbours because they are open for everyone. People can walk through the park and talk with the gardeners about the joy of leisure gardening. Buikslotermeer is proud at what they have accomplished together. Their constructive working method and good communication has brought us the highest recognition of the AVVN Quality Mark Natural Gardening. It feels like a valuable appreciation and it shows the value of leisure garden parks for a city like Amsterdam.

**De Tuinpark Buikslotermeer received the International Federation's diploma for ecological gardening.**

















