



WELCOME TO THE WHCA COMMUNITY GARDENS! COMMUNITY GARDEN AGREEMENT AND GUIDELINES 2023

- This membership agreement covers the time period between May 1st and October 31st, 2023.
- Each household can rent one garden bed for one growing season. If there are any open beds after May 1st, then the additional plots may be purchased by the garden members.
- All garden plot renters must purchase a WHCA membership that covers the duration of the gardening season. The cost is \$35 plus tax, (\$36.75)
- Previous years' members "in good standing" (abided by the Garden Agreement) have a first option of renewing **for the same garden bed** and must register and pay by **May 1st**.
- Any unassigned beds after May 1st will be offered to the public. You may register by emailing admin@westhurst.com
- Failure to maintain ones' garden bed is considered "**not in good standing**" and you will be removed from priority for the following season.
- Garden bed rental fees are \$40 plus GST. Fees are non-refundable.
- All persons using a garden bed will be named on the signed agreement.
- Gardeners are not permitted to trade or sublet their garden beds and may not register "**in name only**" while a friend or relative actually uses the garden.
- All gardens will be planted by June 15th and cleaned out by Oct. 31.
- Gardeners are expected to provide their own seeds, seedlings, tomato cages, hand tools, row cover and crop labels.
- Gardeners are responsible for keeping their gardens watered regularly.
- Gardeners will not plant any invasive plants such as mint, chives, peppermint, spearmint, strawberries unless they're in pots so the roots can't spread. No sunflowers in the gardens beds unless they are the dwarf variety. No raspberries or wildflowers.
- No plants higher than 4 feet so they do not shade neighboring gardens.
- Trellises must be stable in all weather conditions and must not shade other neighboring gardens.
- Permanent structures are not allowed i.e. the use of nails, screws, or permanent decorations are prohibited.
- *Gardeners must strictly adhere to organic gardening principles and will not use chemical fertilizers, pesticides herbicides or insecticides in the gardens. All soil and compost brought to the garden must be organic.*
- There is **NO** Composting available for the Garden Area. A garbage bin will be placed by the Garden shed, but should be emptied at least once a week to the bins behind the building.

- Gardeners will deal with insect infestations and keep weeds out of their garden beds and paths around their plots by manual/organic removal to prevent these from spreading to other beds.
- Gardens that are not appropriately maintained (seeded, planted, weeded, watered, harvested, cleaned up) will revert back to the Community Garden Committee 7 days after notification to the gardener. Each gardener is responsible to ensure that their garden is maintained during their absence (ie. vacation or illness).
- Gardeners will respect the other gardeners' rights and not cause actions that are detrimental to others.
- Gardeners will ensure they take responsibility for their children and/or their friends or relatives accompanying them to the gardens and make sure children are always supervised.
- Gardeners are limited to one friend/relative accompanying them to the garden at any given time.
- When compost is available, gardeners will take only their share and leave enough for other gardeners.
- If pets are accompanying a member, they must be on a leash and supervised so as to not soil in the garden areas.
- Gardeners will pick only produce or flowers from their own garden. Please be considerate.
- Gardeners will be responsible for their own hand tools and ensure that shared tools and equipment are cleaned after each use and stored appropriately. Make sure hoses are wound up and not left lying on the ground.
- If anything in the garden breaks, or if your garden is vandalized or pilfered in any way please email generalmanager@westhillhurst.com
- Make sure water is turned off after use and shed is locked. The combination to the shed will be given to you at the Spring Garden Clean-Up meeting.
- Gardeners MUST disinfect the water faucet and any common surfaces they use, prior to and after using, Disinfectant must meet the posted guidelines at the facility entrance.
- Gardeners MUST bring surface and hand disinfectant with them to the community garden.
- Gardens will be open from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm daily. Water will be turned on from 9:30am to 4:30pm Monday to Friday.
- Every Gardener will act as a "**GARDEN AMBASSADOR**" by greeting and welcoming visitors and answering questions or referring them to the WHCA and by identifying and reporting concerns and issues to the Garden committee or WHCA and lastly by promoting the gardens missions, vision and values.

The WHCA and Community Garden Committee's responsibilities include:

- setting and enforcing garden guideline and deciding plot renewals
- monitoring the e-mail account and communicating with gardeners
- organizing spring and fall clean ups (**if applicable**)
- organizing speakers, workshops, etc. and notifying gardeners of events (**if applicable**)
- publicity (e.g. website, Warbler articles) and promotion (**if applicable**)
- mediating conflicts between gardeners

Garden Committee Decision-Making process:

- The WHCA Community Garden Committee listens to suggestions and comments from all gardeners and will endeavor to make the wisest choice for the benefit of the garden and all the gardeners.
- The Community Garden Committee will strive for consensus when making decisions, but if not possible, a majority vote of the Community Garden Committee members present shall decide.
- Garden Committee decisions may be appealed first to the WHCA management and then to the President and Board of Directors.
- By signing this agreement, the gardener consents to having their e-mail shared with fellow gardeners solely for the purpose of coordination and information relevant to the WHCA garden.
- Additionally, signing this agreement permits photography of the gardener and their guests during gardening related events

- Signing this agreement absolves the WHCA from any liability, financial or otherwise which may result from activities related to the garden either by myself or others.

Failure to comply with the above conditions may void this agreement.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Date: _____ Garden Plot: _____