

# City of Beaverton Community Garden Guidelines

- 1. Community gardens must maintain a neat appearance throughout the year. All gardeners are expected to maintain a working garden which reflects seasonality**
  - a. During the growing season (April – October), show you are using your plot by:
    - Preparing the soil for planting
    - Planting and growing crops
    - Harvesting ripe produce
    - Weeding, especially weeds in flower or setting seed
  - b. During the off season (November – March), continue to care for your garden plot by:
    - Removing dead and dying plants
    - Mulching or applying a cover crop
    - Neatly storing seasonal structures like tomato cages, stakes and trellises
    - Weeding, especially those in flower or setting seed
  - c. Meet the Spring Getting Started and Fall Clean Up deadlines
    - Spring Getting Started deadline is May 15. Plots must show signs of being worked including weeding and planting
    - Fall Clean Up deadline is October 31. All dead and dying plants must be removed and the plot winterized and materials neatly stored
  - d. Gardeners are responsible for maintaining the paths bordering their plot
    - Keep paths bordering your plot 3 feet wide
    - Remove weeds from the path and directly alongside the fence, if your plot borders a fence
    - Spread wood chips along paths
    - Keep plants within the boundaries of your plot
  - e. Temporary gardening structures such as trellises are allowed, but they must meet the following criteria:
    - Do not encroach upon paths, community spaces, or neighboring plots
    - Orient structures to avoid casting shade on other plots
    - All structures must be removed when a plot is vacated
    - Fencing and structures must be a neutral/natural color and well-maintained
    - Structures must be easily removable and not exceed 6'H x 3'W x 3'D
  
- 2. Contribute and log a minimum of six hours per year in service to your community garden. Three hours must be completed by June 30 and a total of six hours must be completed by November 15**
  - Contact your garden steward for a list of tasks that will count towards your service hour commitment
  - If you are unable to contribute service hours due to a disability or personal circumstance, contact city garden staff to request an exception

**3. The City of Beaverton does not provide garbage service at the gardens. Each gardener is responsible for managing their own waste**

- Do not dump material inside or outside of your plot
- All garbage must be taken home
- Garden debris roll-carts are available for your use from mid-spring through fall clean up. Please use these carts only for garden debris waste - no garbage, plastic, dirt, sod or rocks
- Gardeners may compost inside their plot, but it must be maintained – meaning turned weekly and monitored for pests.

**4. Organic gardening is required**

- The use of synthetic herbicides and/or pesticides is prohibited unless they are listed on the Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI) product list, [www.omri.org](http://www.omri.org)
- Free natural gardening brochures and assistance are available; contact the Community Garden Program for more information at [gardenmail@BeavertonOregon.gov](mailto:gardenmail@BeavertonOregon.gov) or 503-526-2665

**5. Watering**

- Gardeners must be in their plot while watering
- Automatic waterers or timers are not permitted
- Help conserve water by watering before 10 a.m. or after 6 p.m.
- Please report any leaking faucets or hoses to program staff or your garden steward
- Water is turned on by April 1 and shut off November 15

**6. Prohibited plants**

- Plants are for personal or donation use only, not commercial purposes
- No trees
- No invasive plants
- No mint, except in pots
- No federally controlled plants

**7. Prevent rodents and stinging insects from building homes in your garden**

- Remove piles of debris and regularly turn compost piles. Only add vegetable matter from your plot; never add grains or meat from home to your garden compost.
- Remove food sources by harvesting produce when ripe
- Dump standing water
- Do not feed the birds or squirrels. Bird/squirrel food attracts mice and rats
- Rodenticides (rat poison) are not allowed in the garden

## **8. Plots are not transferable**

- There is a one plot per household limit
- If a gardener needs to relinquish their plot, they must contact the Community Garden Program [gardenmail@BeavertonOregon.gov](mailto:gardenmail@BeavertonOregon.gov) or 503-526-2665
- Potential new gardeners interested in gardening at one of our locations can express interest by adding themselves to the waitlist at [BeavertonOregon.gov/gardens](http://BeavertonOregon.gov/gardens) at the bottom of the Registration Process page.

## **9. No smoking policy**

- Tobacco use is not permitted anywhere on city-owned or leased properties as well as any city-sponsored event or venues
- To ensure a safe, healthy and welcoming environment for everyone, tobacco use is prohibited in all Beaverton Community Gardens

## **Gardener Accountability and Policy Enforcement**

Gardeners are responsible for following the garden guidelines and meeting all deadlines. Staff and volunteer garden stewards will regularly monitor plots throughout the year. If a gardener is not following the garden guidelines, staff will send a reminder.

- If a garden plot looks abandoned during the main garden season (April-October), garden staff will contact the plot holder. The plot holder has two weeks to respond and start gardening. If there is no action after two weeks, the plot will be forfeited and reassigned.
- Gardeners who do not complete either the fall cleanup or service hour requirement will forfeit their plot and lose the ability to renew the following garden season.
- Gardeners who receive three notices, for any reason, during the garden season will forfeit their plot or lose the ability to renew.
- Gardeners who receive notices are encouraged to contact program staff to work out a garden plan to keep their plot.

\*Guidelines are available in Nepali and Spanish. To request a copy or translation to another language, please contact [gardenmail@BeavertonOregon.gov](mailto:gardenmail@BeavertonOregon.gov) or call 503-526-2665.

**This document is available in other languages and formats upon request**

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توفر هذه الوثيقة باللغات وغيرها من الأشكال بناءا على طلبها

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