

Goldenrod Community Garden Rules

Last updated September 8, 2021

Goldenrod Community Garden aims to provide a safe, community-building, and family-friendly space to grow gardens. Please keep in mind that these rules are not all-encompassing and try to ensure that your behaviour allows for the safe enjoyment of the space by all members.

Please also review the GCG Bylaws.

Garden Information and Guidelines

Note: Rules flagged with [F] also apply to the no-plot members/Friends of the Goldenrod Community Garden.

1. Members must provide the GCG with their contact information and notify them of any changes as soon as they occur. The person whose name appears on the Registration Form as the Applicant is responsible for adhering to these rules; this applies both to themselves and any other persons working on or visiting their plots.
2. A member has the right to keep the same plot each year if the member is in good standing and they have registered to renew and paid their fees before the designated deadline in the spring. If a waiting list exists, a single member or family (persons living at the same address) may not lease more than one plot. To remain a member in good standing, registration must be submitted before the deadline, fees must be paid, and garden rules must be followed.
3. Gardening activities must be confined to the member's own plot and must not interfere with adjacent plots. Laneways, pathways, and ditches must be kept open, clear, and free of obstacles.

4. Tall plants, such as corn, must be planted in such a way as to not interfere with neighbouring plots, including leaning into lanes between plots in such a way that impedes other members' access to their plot, or provides major shading of the neighbouring plot.
5. Without the express permission of the plot holder, no one shall weed, water, or garden in a plot that is not their own, nor shall they contribute to or remove anything from a plot that is not their own.
6. The gardens of the Goldenrod Community Garden are organic. Only organic herbicides, fertilizers, fungicides, or insecticides are allowed. No carpets or other potentially toxic materials may be used as mulch to prevent weeds. No painted wood or pressure treated lumber may be used in a garden plot.
7. Water must be used carefully and only for garden plots. Part of your fee goes to refilling the water containers when they are empty. Efficient use of water makes the Garden more affordable for everyone.
8. Organic material (weeds, discarded vegetables, stalks, vines) and trash, garbage, etc. must not be placed on pathways, laneways, or in ditches. Organic compostable materials may be placed in the designated compost area.
9. All non-compostable trash and garbage must be removed from the garden by the member.
10. Before Fall Clean-Up Day (held the first Saturday after Thanksgiving, weather permitting), all annual plant material with coarse stalks (e.g., corn, sunflowers, broccoli, cabbage) and vines should be finely cut and spread onto the member's plot or placed on the compost pile.
11. All harvesting should be completed in the annual plots before Fall Clean-Up Day to allow for Fall maintenance to be carried out on the plots. Garden tools, plants, and annual produce left will be removed and

disposed of on this date. Perennial plants (including garlic) should be left neat and tidy.

12. Sticks, tools, string, plastics, paper, etc., must be removed from the annual plots by the member and taken from the plot site by the member before Fall Clean-Up Day. As well, all plastic sheeting, including biodegradable plastic, must be removed before Fall Clean-up.
13. All non-planted items in the garden are the property of the Garden community. Personal items may not be stored in the Garden. Anything left in communal areas will be assumed to be property of the Garden.
14. Children and non-member guests are the responsibility of the member, and should be made aware of and following these rules. Children must be supervised, so as to not interfere with other members' garden plots or material.
15. [F] Dogs and other animals must be kept on a leash and away from plots if brought to the site. Animal waste must be removed and properly disposed of off the Garden site.
16. [F] Any intimidating, threatening, or abusive behaviour toward any other member of the Goldenrod Community Garden is strictly prohibited and may result in loss of privileges.
17. [F] Conflicts between members should be managed through discussion of the concern with each other to seek a resolution. If this approach does not resolve the issue it may be escalated to the Board, in writing, for further investigation and action if required (ref. GCG Bylaws).
18. [F] Please keep conversations, music, or other possible noise to a minimum when in the Garden so as not to disturb others.
19. [F] Bicycles, trailers, and wagons may be brought inside the garden plot area, but must not block laneways or paths.

20. [F] Any willful or malicious vandalism, destruction, or defacement of property in the Garden is grounds for revocation of membership. Members responsible for such acts shall be financially responsible for replacements or repairs for damaged property.
21. [F] Drinking or drug use is strictly prohibited and is grounds for immediate probation and possible revocation of membership.
22. [F] Member notifications and communications are limited to the member bulletin board on the tool shed. Postings on the bulletin board must be limited to garden related information. Posting in other areas requires the approval of the Board.
23. [F] The Goldenrod Community Garden shall not be held responsible for personal injury or damage to vehicles and gardening equipment, including loss or damages caused to plot areas as a result of vandalism.
24. The Board reserves the right to cancel plot privileges and re-assign plots at any time for any member's failure to abide by the Rules.
25. Returning gardeners are reminded that the deadline for submission of registration form and payment is the 31st of March and after this date their plots will be offered to other gardeners on the waiting list. A general reminder will be sent to the email address provided by the members prior to this date, but members will not be contacted personally if they have not registered.
26. All members with plots are expected to participate in the Annual General Meeting, as well as any Garden Opening and Fall Clean-Up work crews and activities.
27. Plot numbers are affixed to each bed.
28. It is expected that plots will be planted by July 1 of each year. Failure to plant may result in forfeiture of your GCG fee and plot.

29. Members must control weed growth on their plot, whether annual or perennial, and keep the plot neat and tidy. Poor maintenance, too much weed growth, severe disease or pest damage, the growth of illegal plants, and the growth of plants or crops for sale are all prohibited.
30. Plots will be routinely inspected for excessive weed growth and poor maintenance. Members will be contacted and asked to remedy the situation. If action is not taken in a timely manner the plot will be considered abandoned and membership may be revoked.
31. In the event of plot abandonment, the Board reserves the right to immediately cancel plot privileges for that year and subsequent years, and re-assign the plot then or in the following year.

For information only:

Parking in the adjacent lots at Tunney's Pasture is free and permitted during off hours. (M-F after 5PM, and weekends and holidays all day). Outside of these times, members and volunteers may be ticketed and towed if they are not in a paid parking spot.