

OAK HILLS  
COMMUNITY  
GARDEN  
REGULATIONS

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### 1. Abandoned/under-worked garden:

If planting has not begun in a plot by June 1 the Garden Manager will call the gardener to set a date for planting to begin.

If gardener does not meet agreed-upon date, gardener will receive a 5-day notice via e-mail to plant garden or lose plot.

If gardener does not respond, the plot will be assigned to another gardener. No refund will be given.

Anyone not clearing and raking their plot by the drop box closure date will not be eligible for a plot in the following years. The drop box closure date will be communicated via neighborhood newsletters and email to gardeners.

### 2. Compost bin guidelines:

The compost bin is only for plant material from the community garden.

Please do NOT put any weeds or seeds or tough stems (e.g. tomato plant stems) into the compost bin. Weeds, seeds and tough stems can be placed in the garbage can located next to the compost bin or in the yard waste drop box.

Plant pieces need to be under 6 inches long. The smaller the pieces, the faster it will compost.

Please put a few shovels of dirt, if available, on top of plant materials in the compost bin.

### 3. Courtesy and communication:

Garden members shall work together in harmony by being courteous in all interactions, and work to resolve any disagreements.

Be considerate of their neighbors, being careful not to disturb the tranquility of the garden.

Will not plant tall crops (corn, sunflowers, pole beans) that might interfere with the sun to other gardens.

Gardeners are encouraged to share their bounty but only harvest from their assigned plot.

Borrowed tools should be cleaned and returned to designated area and should not be taken home.

Power tools such as rototillers are not allowed. Plots are small enough to be tilled by hand.

Plots will be assigned numbers. Please identify your plot with this number.

Gardeners are required to volunteer time for general maintenance to keep entire site looking good.

### 4. Dogs and other pets:

Dogs and other pets are not allowed in the garden area. Animal feces/urine contain harmful pathogens.

If you must bring your dog, be sure to tie its leash completely outside the garden area.

Barking must be discouraged so as not to bother neighbors.

Pick up dog excrement and dispose of it in dumpster, not in garden piles.

### 5. Family members, guests and children:

Family members and guests are welcome to the garden site. Please supervise children so they stay on pathways and do not disturb others plots.

### 6. Food banks:

Donations to a food bank are encouraged. 7. Garden Ornaments:

No garden art or ornamentation is allowed.

8. Hours for gardening:

The garden area is open from 8:00 a.m. to dusk seven days a week. See Winter Gardening under Item No. 25.

9. Membership courtesy:

This is a community garden and every member has a right to be included in all discussions and decisions. All meeting notices will be sent via email unless a gardener requests otherwise.

10. Newspaper/plastic mulch:

Newspaper and plastic is not allowed as a mulching agent or weed barrier. Heavy cardboard will be laid under pathways and garden soils to smother weeds. Mulching cloth is permissible as a lining to inner sideboards of wooden raised beds.

11. Noise:

Be considerate of neighbors and retain tranquility of garden.  
Headphones must be used for radios etc.  
Barking dogs discouraged so as to not annoy neighbors.  
No power tools such as leaf blowers or rototillers.

12. Number of plots allowed:

Only one plot to each registered home.

13. Parking:

Park only on 153<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and walk in on the driveway or the concrete sidewalk. Gardeners are not permitted to park behind the maintenance gate during maintenance hours. On weekends, you may park near the gardens, but do not block driveway or access to dumpsters or RV lot.

14. Pathways:

Every gardener is responsible for keeping the surrounding pathways weeded and well tended. Cardboard sheeting should be replaced under wood chips if weeds begin to flourish. Your garden space may stop at the edge of your plot, but your responsibility includes the pathways surrounding your garden.

Everything you plant must remain within the perimeters of the designated plot, allowing adequate space for growth, not overflowing onto pathways.

15. Plants:

Oak Hills is an organic community garden. Use only certified organic products that are safe for people, pets, and wildlife. Crops must be legal and for personal use or donation. Insect and weeds must be kept under control with mulch. The garden is pesticide, herbicide, fungicide and insecticide free. Chemical fertilizers and non-organic slug bait are not permitted.

Potentially invasive plants such as fennel, Jerusalem artichokes, morning glories, raspberries, mint or any plants that have invasive growth habits are not allowed.

No large structures, trees, or plants are allowed.

Contact Garden Manager with questions.

#### 16. Plot reassignment:

Gardeners are not allowed to “reassign” their garden plot to another individual. Garden Coordinator should be notified if you wish to surrender your plot before the end of the season.

#### 17. Policies:

Amendments or additions:

Amendments or additions to these policies can be made at anytime by the Garden Coordinator or Manager and/or the OHHA governing board.

Compliance:

Your compliance with these regulations will help everyone have an enjoyable and prosperous garden.

Failure to comply with these regulations may result in a loss of future gardening privileges and/or your plot being reassigned during the current growing season.

#### 18. Refunds:

If you give up your garden plot after you have registered or if you fail to maintain your plot and it is transferred to a new gardener, your plot fee will not be refunded.

#### 19. Season:

Gardeners are responsible for keeping their plot gardened, cover-cropped or mulched. The growing season is from March 1 through October 31. Weedy plots are subject to warning and cancellation of your registration. Be particularly diligent on removing poisonous plants, such as Nightshade.

Perennial crops and some annual hardy winter crops may be over-wintered, but must be neatly maintained. See Item #25.

#### 20. Smoking

Not allowed within 25 feet of garden perimeter.

#### 21. Theft or vandalism:

Report theft or vandalism to Garden Manager immediately.

Question Unfamiliar Faces.

Harvest crops regularly to reduce temptation for theft.

Any gardener reported for taking other’s crops without permission will have their garden privileges revoked.

#### 22. Deadlines:

March 15 - Registration and fee deadline for current gardeners.

April – Plots open for gardening after spring work party.

June 1<sup>st</sup> - your garden should be planted. If planting has not begun in a plot by June 1 the Garden Manager will call the gardener to set a date for planting to begin. If gardener does not meet agreed-upon date, gardener will receive a 5-day notice via e-mail to plant garden or lose plot.

Drop box closure date - Final Fall harvest and clean-up. All crops and weeds should be disposed of in designated Oak Hills drop box or compost bin in maintenance yard. No garbage or plastic is allowed. These must be taken home for disposal. Anyone not clearing and raking their plot by the drop box closure date will not be allowed a plot in the following years.

#### 23. Vacation or illness:

For short periods, gardeners may ask a friend, neighbor, or fellow gardener to tend their plot. If you are no longer able to tend your plot, please notify the Garden Coordinator.

#### 24. Water Availability:

Water is available from April 1 to October 15

Please be careful to keep the hoses from interfering with other gardeners plots when you water.

Notify Garden Coordinator of any leaks in the water line or hoses.

Unattended watering is not permitted.

Sprinklers are not allowed. Unattended soaker hoses not allowed. If other gardeners are waiting, use no longer than 15 minutes.

Make sure all faucets are off when you leave the garden, even if you did not turn faucets on.

#### 25. Winter Gardening:

Is permissible but water will not be available. Make Garden Manager aware of your intentions before October 31 so plot is not assumed abandoned.

#### 26. Work parties:

A group work party will be scheduled for April and October. Plot renters are required to attend and contribute their labor.

If you would like to organize a work party or other activity, contact the Garden Coordinator who will send your invitation to all members.

Garden Applications are available online. The website address is: [www.oakhillsoregon.com](http://www.oakhillsoregon.com)

#### Applicant Requirements:

Plot renters must be an Oak Hills Neighborhood resident in good standing with the Oak Hills Homeowners Association.

Pre-payment of community garden dues is necessary before you begin gardening and should be submitted with your application between March 1<sup>st</sup> and March 15<sup>th</sup>.

First time gardeners must sign the Liability Waiver included in the application and submit with your check. By signing this waiver, you are acknowledging that you have read, understand and agree to the rules and procedures laid out in this Oak Hills Community Garden Rules and Regulations.

The check should be made out to OAK HILLS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION and sent as directed. Renters understand that they are only renting the garden plot and may not remove any raised beds, soil,

garden tools, hoses, etc. from the community garden.

Agreement with Oak Hills Homeowners Association:

The Oak Hills Board has the right and authority to cancel this agreement at the end of the growing season if they decide to not continue with this agreement, or if they feel that we are not following the rules set down in this document.

Signing the garden rental application means that you agree to abide by these rules and understand that use of the garden may be denied if you do not abide by these rules.

The Oak Hills Community Gardeners agree to remove all lumber and debris from the community garden site if the garden were to ever permanently close. If the garden area is not properly cleaned of lumber and debris then the Oak Hills Homeowners Association will pay for the cleanup costs and will bill the community gardeners for the costs.