



## **ACADIA COMMUNITY GARDEN AND ART SOCIETY GARDEN GUIDELINES AND USER AGREEMENT**

\*All new members are required to attend a New Member Orientation session to learn about expectations and responsibilities, and what we have to offer them at Acadia Community Garden and Art Society.\*

### **Active Participation:**

Members are expected to be actively involved in the overall aspects of the Acadia garden program over and above caring for their individual beds. This involvement is essential to the communal success of the gardens and includes:

Keeping shed tidy, cutting grass and caring for communal areas such as flower beds, composting, and watering the orchard.

Maintaining pathways between gardens, checking information boards for program updates and participating in special events (e.g. art in the garden)

### **Bed Maintenance:**

Each member is responsible for maintaining their individual garden bed AND 2 ft walkway around that bed. Members should expect to spend a minimum of 3 hours per week tending to their garden and the community space.

Members must agree to:

1. Use no chemical fertilizers, pesticides, insecticides or herbicides. Instead I will work with materials such as compost, mulch and natural predators to nurture plants and control pests and disease
2. Use finished compost for soil enhancement instead of animal manures
3. **Composting: Once compost is available.**
  - a. Follow composting and mulching guidelines as provided by the garden committee
  - b. Assist in managing the compost as set out in the guidelines by the garden committee

Guidelines: No meat or dairy products will be added to the compost. Diseased plants or weeds that have gone to seed will not be added to the compost. All users will help maintain a healthy productive compost system.

4. Limit of one garden bed per gardener/gardener family. I am not permitted to give my garden bed away
5. Have garden bed planted by June 15th or accept that it will be re-assigned by the garden committee
6. Gardeners must harvest and clean out their garden bed by Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> unless they are renting a bed for the following year and have perennial plants already planted.
7. Participate in spring and fall clean ups and volunteer. Memberships will only be renewed if all requirements have been met.
8. Harvest produce when it is ripe. Only pick produce and flowers from gardeners' own garden bed. Ripe produce that is not harvested after reminder message will be harvested at the end of the garden season and donated
9. Recycle materials that can be recycled
10. Respect other gardeners
11. Take responsibility for any non-gardeners accompanying me to the garden and ensure children are supervised
12. Not smoke in the garden nor permit any guests to smoke
13. No pets in the garden
14. Please keep your garden maintained and looking neat and healthy. Keep weeds, garbage and litter out of garden and paths around the garden. Please bring your own bag/container to take waste home with you.
15. Gardeners may ask another gardener to water and harvest ripe produce when they are away. We have water me signs that can be used for a 2 week period ONLY. You are responsible for watering your own garden throughout the season.
16. Water available at the garden is untreated and must not be used as drinking water
17. During drought and water rationing periods, hand watering only can be used
18. Restrict crops which grow over 4 ft. in height to the area designated by the garden committee

19. Use trellises that are stable in all weather conditions and do not shade other gardeners
20. Not introduce any plants on the list of invasive, prohibited or noxious plants refer to [www.invasiveplants.ab.ca/fact-sheets](http://www.invasiveplants.ab.ca/fact-sheets)
21. Deal with insect and weed infestations quickly and organically to prevent spread to other beds
22. Beds that are not maintained on a regular basis (seeded, planted, weeded, watered, harvested, cleaned up) will be assumed abandoned if not attended to within seven days after 2 attempts to contact me. Abandoned beds will revert back to the garden committee with no refund.
23. Clean shared garden tools and put them back in storage shed after using them.
24. Keep the key or combination to the garden shed secure according to procedure set by garden committee
25. All seeds, seedlings, compost, tomato cages, gardening hand tools, and crop label are the responsibility of each gardener
26. Sign up for one assigned date during the season to cut the grass in the common area
27. If any gardener does not carry out these steps the garden committee can re-assign their garden bed
- 28. Gardener agrees to allow my contact information to be shared with other members of the Acadia Community Garden and Art Society**

#### **GARDEN BED RENTAL INFORMATION**

29. The garden bed rental agreement is for the period between October 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup> (referred to as the season)
30. Registration for returning gardeners commences on October 1st the opportunity to obtain the same garden bed as the previous year. Payment must be received with your registration.
31. Registration for new gardeners commences on November 1st on a first come first served basis. Payment must be received with your registration.
32. Each gardener can rent one garden plot and that plot is reserved for one season

5. 4 x 10 bed \$50.00 4 x 8 bed \$40.00 4 x 6 bed \$30.00