



Parks and Recreation Department

City of Bellingham

Community Garden

Rules & Responsibilities

The City of Bellingham Parks and Recreation Department operates three year-round gardening sites. Failure to comply with Rules & Responsibilities may result in cancellation of program participation.

General

- Community Garden participants shall practice pack in, pack out (leave no trace). Please take home and discard of all garbage and recycling appropriately.
- Each gardener is responsible for weekly maintenance and upkeep of their garden plot and adjoining walkways to the mid-point.
- Plots and walkways must have minimal weeds and grasses and free of exposed root systems.
- Plots will be kept neat and tidy to minimize safety hazards and pest problems.
- Place all weeds removed from the garden for disposal in the designated weed area.
- Rocks shall be placed in designated areas.
- Use of synthetic fertilizers or pesticides are prohibited.
- Do not bring pets to the gardens. This excludes service animals. Service animals must always be kept on leash.
- Children are welcome in the garden but must be accompanied and supervised by an adult.
- No motorized equipment permitted except gas-powered roto-tillers.
- Do not store any personal materials anywhere outside of leased 10-foot x 20-foot plot.
- Subletting or reassigning plots to other gardeners is prohibited.
- Gardeners must volunteer 5 hours annually. Please work with your Garden Committee or check the bulletin board for volunteer garden tasks.
- Gardeners who are notified that they are not meeting the expectations outlined in the Community Garden Rules & Responsibilities will have 7 days to resolve the identified issues. Gardeners unable to resolve identified issues will result in cancellation of program participation and reassignment of garden plot.

Composting

- Place all useable Community Garden compost in the designated compost area. Compost is limited to garden cuttings and raw fruits and vegetables from the gardens. Household or yard waste generated off-site is not permitted.

Watering

- Water hoses are available to share among community garden program participants. Please adhere to summer water conservation guidelines. Limit watering to 30 minutes when other gardeners are waiting to water their plots.
- Water hoses shall not be attached to overhead watering systems or drip watering systems.
- You must remain on-site when watering.

Main Office
210 Lottie Street
Bellingham, WA 98225
Phone: (360) 778-7000
Fax: (360) 778-7001
Email: parks@cob.org
www.cob.org/parks

Operations
1400 Woburn Street
Bellingham, WA 98229
Phone: (360) 778-7100
Fax: (360) 778-7101
Email: parks@cob.org
www.cob.org/parks

- Water is for Community Garden plot use only.

Plant Materials

- No invasive or woody plants (vines including grapes, trees, shrubs) may be planted in the garden. Bush and cane fruits (i.e. blueberries and raspberries) are permitted.
 - <https://wnps.org/invasive-species>
 - <http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us/921/What-Are-Noxious-Weeds>

For more information about invasive plants contact your Community Garden Committee.

Structures

- All garden structure requests (i.e. storage containers, fencing, netting, raised beds, pots, plants, individual composting bins, etc.) must be pre-approved by Park Operations. Structure requests must be received in writing. Park Operations will make a determination about the requested structure and respond to the requestor.
- No structures will be permitted over 6-feet tall.
- All garden materials and approved structures must be within the 10-foot x 20-foot garden plot. Approved hoop houses, row covers, and tunnels may not exceed 5-foot wide by 14-foot long. Gardeners must be able to walk around the structure and be able to maintain plot/fence lines. Garden materials and approved structures that go outside of garden plot will be removed and discarded as it interferes with garden perimeter maintenance, other garden plots and may impose safety risks for gardeners.
- Fencing cannot be made of solid materials such as brick, stone or wood. Fence materials/posts shall not be set in concrete.
- No planting on shared fences without consent from other gardener.
- No heating units are permitted.

Bulletin Boards

- Bulletin boards are for Community Garden information sharing only. No advertising or personal notices.

Community Garden Sheds

Each site has a shed with donated tools and materials for all gardeners to use. Contact the Community Garden Committee for information about access.

- When using materials from the shed, return items to where you found them, in clean condition.
- Gardeners may donate rakes, hoes and shovels in good condition with Community Garden Committee approval.
- Do not donate hardscaping items (fence, posts, plastic, bricks, stones, etc.)
- Lock shed before leaving the garden site.

Conflict Resolution

- Conflict resolution:
 - Call 911 – for any emergency, theft, or crime.
 - Contact Community Garden Committee – for gardening information or help.
 - Fairhaven Community Garden: FCGcommittee@gmail.com
 - Happy Valley Garden: hvcgcommittee@gmail.com
 - Lakeway Garden: parks@cob.org
 - Contact Park Operations (360) 778-7101 – for concerns about garden maintenance.
 - Contact the Main Office (360) 778-7000 – to register and pay for your plots.

The City of Bellingham is not responsible for personal items left at the Community Gardens.