Wagon Hill Farm Community Garden Guidelines

www.WagonHillCommunityGarden.com

We are fortunate that the Town of Durham leases this space to us on Wagon Hill Farm which has been farmed continuously for over 300 years. We need to be careful stewards of the land. We appreciate your cooperation and community spirit to make this a successful program. These guidelines are designed to help the garden run smoothly.

1. **Garden Opening Meeting:**
   Members are expected to attend the garden opening meeting, held in March.

2. **Annual Membership & Plot Use Period:**
   Annual membership and plot use begin once registered and membership fee is paid, and end with final cleanup of plot(s) no later than November 22nd. “Plots” refer to raised beds, as well as inground plots. *Plots are not transferable. If you are unable to garden, notify the Membership Coordinator.*

3. **Workday Commitment:**
   Workdays will be held according to the schedule distributed in March. Monthly email reminders will be sent. Members are expected to participate in at least three workdays. Workdays are used to maintain the general garden area, not individual plots. Be sure to sign in on workdays. We encourage gardeners to attend workdays to fulfill this requirement, so that one can work in community with other gardeners to maintain the garden. *If you are unable to come to workdays, email the Membership Coordinator to work out an alternative plan for you to do your share of general garden maintenance.*

   Gardeners not meeting their workday requirements may have their assigned plots reduced, have their plot taken over by the board, or in the extreme, be asked to leave the garden.

4. **Organic Gardening, Fertilizer & Pesticides:**
   The gardens are organic, so do NOT use synthetic fertilizers or non-organic pesticides. Plastic mulch is allowed, but not preferred. Any non-organic mulch must be removed at the end of the season. If you have any questions about products, consult the garden web site or ask the Garden Steward. Read the Pest & Disease Control Guidelines posted on the website.

5. **Plot Maintenance:**
   Plot maintenance is the responsibility of the individual gardener. Keep your area free of weeds, disease and insect pests. Harvest your vegetables in a timely manner as rotting produce attracts insects, diseases and rodents. Be sure that your plants and structures stay inside your plot.

   Your garden MAY be gleaned of fallen produce if it is not harvested in a timely manner. Donate extra produce to the Food Pantry.

If you are not able to tend your garden due to illness or travel, find someone to water, weed and harvest. Make sure this person knows what your plot number is and clarify exactly what you're asking them to do.

Gardeners are expected to check their gardens at least once a week. If a plot appears to be untended, you will be contacted by the Garden Steward. If your plot is not cleaned up within two weeks after contact, it may be reassigned. Remember the community garden is like a neighborhood; your actions or inactions can affect everyone.

6. **Path Maintenance:**
   Gardeners are asked to maintain the paths around their garden bed(s). Keep paths clear of rocks, weeds or other debris. Apply cardboard and chips as required.

7. **Water & Hoses:**
   Water is a precious resource, and our faucets are fed from a well. Please be mindful of your watering! Water faucets *must be turned off* after use. Do not drag hoses through other gardens. Hoses must be coiled and off the ground after use.

8. **Tools/Wheelbarrow:**
   Tools and wheelbarrows in the shed are for shared use. Please take care of them! Return the tools and the wheelbarrow in a clean condition, ready for the next person to use. If you break something, please notify the Materials Coordinator or Garden Steward so it can be repaired or replaced.

9. **Plant Debris & Compost:**
   Follow the directions posted in the compost area. Diseased plant material should be removed from the garden and disposed of in your trash at home. Weed and weed seeds should not be placed in the compost but should be disposed of outside the garden fence in the fields. Plant material for the compost pile should have soil shaken off in your bed, then *break or chop plants into small pieces so they will compost more quickly. Plastic plant markers, wire, string, pots or stakes MUST NOT be placed in the compost.*

10. **Plant restrictions:**
    Perennials are no longer permitted. If you have perennials already, it will be your responsibility to remove them when you leave the community garden. We have a communal perennial garden. Please contact the Garden Steward if you have perennials you would like to donate.

11. **Structures:**
    Individual fences are not in keeping with the spirit of a community garden and therefore are not allowed around individual plots. Other structures intended to support or control plants (such as tomatoes) will be allowed but should not shade someone else's garden or inhibit movement on garden paths. Any structure, such as stakes, poles, tomato cages, wire, etc., must be taken away from the garden at the end of the season. The shed cannot safely accommodate storage of materials used by individual gardeners.

12. Donations:

Check with the Materials Coordinator before donating tools, newspaper, cardboard or plants to the garden. Check with the Food Pantry Coordinator before donating plastic food containers. If you would like to make a monetary donation to the garden, contact the Treasurer or Board Chair.

13. Other:

Respect other gardeners' plots as you would like them to respect yours.
Do not take plants or produce from their plots or allow your plants to invade their space.
Do not bring illegal substances, alcohol or drugs to the garden.
There is no smoking at Wagon Hill Farm.
Dogs should be leashed and under owner's control in the garden.
To help prevent mosquitoes, do not leave open containers of standing water in the garden.
Please report theft, vandalism or unusual activities to the Garden Steward.

14. Organization Memberships:

Wagon Hill Farm Community Garden does make plots available to organizations. The following additional rules apply: at least one of the registered gardeners will accompany members of the organization when they come to tend their plot; and the registered gardener will be responsible for the conduct of the members of the organization, making sure the Wagon Hill Community Garden guidelines are followed.

Garden Contacts:

Membership Coordinator: Judie Churchill - wagonhillcommunitygarden@gmail.com

Garden Steward: Toby Clarke - tobyclarke@comcast.net

Materials Coordinators: Mario Caritos - nhtherapyrehab@gmail.com

Board Chair: Toby Clarke - tobyclarke@comcast.net

Compost Manager: Steve Jones

Education and Community Building: Elise Sullivan - esullivannh@gmail.com

Treasurer: Carolyn Dupont - dmpf25a@aol.com

Secretary: Brian Gollwitzer

Food Pantry Coordinator: Wendy Beagen - wendybeagen@comcast.net

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