



THE CITY OF RIDGEFIELD

230 Pioneer Street | P.O. Box 608 | Ridgefield, WA 98642

GUIDELINES FOR COMMUNITY GARDEN PARTICIPANTS

Use common courtesy, be considerate of your gardening neighbors and ENJOY.

1. Community garden plots are public spaces and should maintain a neat appearance. It is the gardener's responsibility to maintain their garden plot year-round on a consistent basis.
2. Gardeners are responsible for maintaining the area immediately adjacent to their assigned plot including keeping the area weed free. For any vacant lot, other gardeners are encouraged to assist with maintenance.
3. All gardeners are encouraged to get to know fellow gardeners and assist with garden upkeep.
4. Gardeners who fail to maintain their plot and/or have a consistently weedy or unintended plot will be contacted and asked to clean up their assigned plot. Continued inactivity will be viewed as abandonment of the garden plot.
5. A Gardner who has abandoned their plot will be given 30-day notice before their plot is reassigned in the priority order.
6. Seasonal and temporary gardening structures such as trellises are allowed if they do not encroach upon paths, community spaces, or neighboring plots.
7. Gardeners should not enter or harvest from someone else's plot without permission.
8. Garden plots should not be expanded beyond the designated area. For example, keep vining and spreading plants confined in your own plot. Assure that sunflowers or tall trellised plants do not shade your neighbor. Corn stalks and sunflowers are strongly discouraged.
9. Each gardener is responsible for dealing with the garden material generated from their plot. Put weeds and dead plants into the yard debris bin provided. Any diseased plants or seedy or invasive weeds should be bagged and taken home so as not to contaminate the gardens.
10. Secure the tool shed and help maintain tools.
11. Pick up litter when you see it.
12. Well-mannered dogs are allowed unless complaints are received. Dogs must be supervised, are not permitted to go into any garden plots and dog owners must remove scooped poop.
13. The use of pesticides is highly discouraged on garden plots. Each gardener is responsible for his/her application methods.
14. When a gardener no longer wishes to use their plot, the gardener must notify the City so the plot can be assigned to another gardener. Gardeners cannot re-assign plots to another person.



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ASSIGNING GARDEN PLOTS

Applications are filled on a first-come, first-served basis with priority given to prior garden participants. Assignments will not be made until the fee is paid and the application form is signed.

- All gardeners are required to complete an application form and pay the plot fee each year.
- Plots are assigned in a first come, first served basis with preference to gardeners who were assigned a plot(s) the previous year.
- A plot will not be assigned to any gardener until the required applications form(s) and fees are paid.
- The annual schedule for assigning plots is as follows.
 - January 1 to March 15, applications are open for gardeners who were assigned a plot the previous year (“returning gardeners”) and want to retain the same plot. Each household may lease one plot during this time period.
 - The remaining plots are assigned on a first come first served basis as follows:
 - March 16 to April 15 - applications will be open for returning gardeners to obtain a different plot and for new gardeners. Priority will be given to returning gardeners.
 - April 16 to May 15 - if any plots remain unassigned, gardeners with assigned plots may apply for and be assigned a second plot.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:

Corey Crownhart, Parks Manager

City of Ridgefield

360-887-6010

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