

CYPRESS COMMUNITY GARDEN at 6th Avenue SOCIETY 2024-2025

November 1, 2024 to October 31, 2025

Membership Rules Guidelines and Rules

1. I am a resident of the City of Vancouver. I will pay a non-refundable annual membership fee of \$40.00, due November 1st of each year. I understand that if I do not pay my membership fee by the due date, I risk losing my plot and my plot maybe reassigned immediately. I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure that my membership form and fees are received by November 1st of each membership year.
2. I will use only organic gardening practices and will NOT use chemical fertilizers or pesticides or herbicides. I will have dug over and cleaned my plot by April 15th and started planting by May 15th. I will keep my plot planted through the growing season, and weed free throughout the year.
3. If I use garden composters, I will follow garden compost guidelines - no weeds, diseased plants, rocks, kitchen scraps or any non-organic materials (e.g. plastic) in the compost. Plant materials will be chopped into pieces no longer than 4". There is NO worm composting in the garden (too hot in garden and kitchen scraps are not permitted in garden). Note: Compost is toxic for dogs: I will not dump compost, vegetables or plant waste in the garden area or on City land or the Greenway.
4. I will be the primary gardener of my plot throughout the garden season. If I will be away for part of the growing season, or if I am unable to garden for any other reason, I will inform my Section Rep and Coordinators. I will not re-assign my plot. Garden plots may only be reassigned by the Cypress Garden Coordinators. **I recognize that leaving a plot unplanted, untended or with weeds can lead to forfeiting my membership.**
5. I will not leave plastics, tarps, garbage, plastic pots, cardboard, detritus or personal belongings in my plot, Section, or Common Areas nor will I leave or place any of these on the Arbutus Greenway or City land. I will not plant, build or add to Common Areas without permission from Coordinators.
6. **I will maintain and weed my plot and the areas immediately surrounding my plot. This includes weeding the adjacent paths—or fence—whether on the east, west or south (street/curb) side. I will also maintain and weed the border areas outside the Section fence on the north (greenway end), and to the south along the curb in line with the ends of my plot.** I will maintain the structure of my plot, repairing/replacing any wood as necessary. Re-builds/repairs must leave a minimum 18" path between plots. I will not use treated wood or other potentially toxic materials in or around my plot. **Any trellis supports will be placed at the north end of my plot (the Greenway end) so as not to block light to other plots and will be of a suitable design that accords with the trellises in other sections.** Tomato or vegetable coverings will not exceed 3 feet in height and will not cover more than half the plot.

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7. I will harvest crops as they mature. I will remove dead/diseased plants or litter from my plot & surrounding areas. I will cover plants susceptible to blight *before* the rains begin, to prevent infection. I will remove plants that have gone to seed, to prevent them from spreading to neighbouring plots. I will “winterize” my garden by November 1st of each year. I will respect the City and Garden requirements in all areas. I will not dig out, divide, prune, harvest or cut vegetables or plants belonging to other members’ plots, or from Common areas unless I have been requested to do so by the garden member assigned to the plot, or by the Section Rep/Coordinator responsible for the Common area.
8. I will participate in 4 Work Parties: Spring and Fall all-section Work Parties, and 2 Work Parties hosted by my Section. (See our Website <https://www.cypresscommunitygarden.ca/> for the Work Party Schedule). If I cannot attend any one of these, I will contact my Section Rep beforehand and will arrange make up work. Work Party fulfillment is required for renewal. Our community garden also has Keener and Keeper Work Parties scheduled to allow gardeners to make up a work party if they missed one, or to help in the garden through the season beyond the 4 required Work Parties.
9. I will use the water system only as needed and will make sure the water is turned off and not dripping when completed. To prevent spotting and burning, I will not spray neighbouring plots or plantings (sprayed water burns flowers and leaves in the sun). I will not water other gardener’s plots unless requested. I will report broken/split hoses or plumbing leaks to my Section Rep or to a Coordinator
10. I understand that the garden is a community endeavour and that respect for my plot neighbours and fellow gardeners is a basic rule of membership. Inebriation in the garden will not be tolerated. Unruly, aggressive or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated and will lead to the forfeiture of membership.
11. I will advise my Section Rep of any change of address, email or phone so that I can be contacted regarding Work Parties and garden business. I understand that if I do not advise my Section Rep of any changes and cannot be contacted I may lose my garden privileges and my plot will be reassigned. I will advise my Section Rep and the Coordinator if I choose to terminate my garden membership. (Membership fees are non-refundable after March).
12. I understand that the Garden Coordinators have the authority to withdraw my garden membership if I do not follow one or more of the guidelines and rules stated above. I understand that a Garden Coordinator will contact me by email or in writing before withdrawing garden privileges due to non-compliance.
13. I understand that neither the garden group, the Cypress Community Garden, nor the City of Vancouver is responsible for my actions. I agree to hold harmless the garden group, Cypress Community Garden and the City of Vancouver for any liability, damage, and loss or claim that may occur in connection with the use of the garden by me or by any visitor to my garden plot.