

PREAMBLE TO AGREEMENT

As a candidate for gardener with the Woodbury Community Garden, we would like you to read and understand the mission and goals of the garden before you make your final decision to participate.

The Woodbury Community Garden is a unique and beautiful place to garden. When it was conceived, it was intended to be a different experience from the typical community garden. We are a vegetable garden, surrounded by flower gardens that are all part of a city park. It is intended to be a visually inspiring location where anyone from the community can come, stroll with their children, enjoy a picnic lunch, walk their dog and observe a few privileged gardeners ply their trade with pride. Available to be enjoyed by the whole community, not solely for the benefit of the gardeners. The garden has improved and evolved year after year, so let's allow this project to reach its full potential.

There are other nearby community gardens that are equally productive, but the standard of excellence is more relaxed with little concern for the aesthetics of the site as a whole. Just as the Marines are looking for a few good men, we are looking for a few good gardeners. Gardeners who want to be part of a larger community effort to create a beautiful environment for us all to enjoy.

We only have a few garden plots available and we believe these should be reserved for participants with the time, energy, enthusiasm and commitment to utilize and maintain the land to its fullest capacity.

If you feel that you do not have the time to fulfill the requirements listed below, we still want you to participate as a "Friend of the Woodbury Community Garden".

This group is made up of people who would like to be involved and help out, but lack the time to fully support a garden plot of their own. Volunteers that could water and weed or contribute to other garden projects with any level of commitment and time they choose.

Or, please just stop by and enjoy the garden environment as a visitor anytime you like.

Please give this serious consideration before you decide to participate.

Thank you

Woodbury Community Garden

STRAIGHT TALK

This is one last effort to communicate to the gardeners (both returning and new) the vision and goals set forth for the Woodbury Community Garden. At the end of our fourth year, we have completed a review of the garden's progress toward reaching these goals.

We have studied other community gardens (some in existence for 35 years), talked with their administrators, read their guidelines and rules (agreements) and have arrived at some conclusions:

1. We differ from most other gardens. They are exclusionary, we are inclusionary. By exclusionary we mean that the other gardens are run for the sole benefit of the gardeners and all others are told to stay away or be ticketed by the local police. We are just the opposite. We have invited anyone and everyone to walk through and enjoy this beautiful garden setting. As a result we have many more visitors than we have gardeners. People using the picnic tables at lunch time, people walking their dogs, people using your garden to teach their kids about gardening. There are groups and organizations who find our beautiful park setting as a good venue for their meetings and ceremonies.
2. We have decided to no longer request participating gardeners to volunteer time towards maintaining the perimeter garden. Past experience shows a high level of noncompliance. We find that those gardeners who do work outside of their own plots would do so even though it is not a requirement. Instead we want you to spend your time grooming your own plot to assure that it is weeded and neat all season long.
3. We have decided that maintaining a neat garden plot will be a basic requirement for future participation in the the program. Weed infested individual gardens detract from the efforts of others to keep the garden presentable for the enjoyment of both other gardeners and the public. Noncompliance will result in forfeiture of gardening privileges.
4. We are still striving to put some community into the community garden. So far we have assembled over 30 individuals, most of whom fail to see the opportunity to fellowship with other participants. Here is an opportunity to enjoy the company of like minded people while helping to create a growing asset for Woodbury. Please help us to make this program a vibrant community center of activity.
5. Finally, we find it necessary to stiffen our enforcement of the garden agreement. Gardeners who want to express their individuality might best garden in their own backyard. We have also identified other nearby gardening opportunities to share with you, that might better meet your personal needs. So please, if you join with us, be ready to follow the guidelines. After all, they are just good gardening practices

CITY OF WOODBURY COMMUNITY GARDEN AGREEMENT

The Woodbury Community Garden (WCG) was conceived as an enhancement to Stewart Lake Park. There are picnic tables, walking trails with benches and a beautifully landscaped garden to be enjoyed by all who love the outdoors. At the core of the garden are individual gardens tended by guest gardeners who grow vegetables and flowers for their own consumption.

Garden Guidelines and Rules for guest gardeners:

- The Community Garden will be open from dawn to dusk.
- I will mark my plot with my name.
- The WCG will supply water and hoses to the guest gardeners. Watering must be done by hand, no sprinklers (a city requirement). You will be given a key to the water valve when you sign this agreement. Your key must be returned at the end of the season, Oct. 15. Another key is secured in a key safe on the shed, the combination will be given to you at the signing.
- I agree to always lock the water valve when done, return the key to the safe and windup the hose.
- I will plant vegetables and/or herbs for my personal use and not for resale.
- I will plant annual flowers only.
- I will arrange the plants inside my plot so as not to interfere with mowing of the grass. (Consider the mature size of the plant when planting near the edge of your plot.)
- I will not use pesticides, insecticides or weed repellents. (This is an organic garden.)
- I will start planting my garden on? Target Date: _____ I understand that if my plot is not started within one week of my target date it will be reassigned.
- I will visit my garden to tend to its needs at least once a week throughout the gardening season, May 15 to October 15. (You are signing up for the entire gardening season.)
- I will keep my plot weeded and neat. (You are responsible for keeping your plot weed free and neat until Oct.15th, even if you have pulled your vegetables in September.)
- Use a spade to edge your garden plot on a regular basis to keep the Bermuda grass out of your garden. (This is the hardest weed to control and this the easiest way to do it).
- If my plot becomes unkempt, I understand I will be given a one week notice to clean up. If not maintained, my plot will be reassigned or tilled in.
- I will deposit all garden debris in the cans provided.
- I will keep trash and litter cleaned from my plot, as well as all surrounding areas.

- I will harvest all of my ripe vegetables by Monday night or I agree for them to be picked and donated to the Woodbury Food Bank to help the needy. (Picking will take place 8:00 AM on Tuesdays, if you want to save particular items, call the Project Coordinator.)
- I will respect my neighbors plot and only pick his/her vegetables with their permission.
- I will not leave rotting vegetables on the ground.
- I understand that the WCG is not responsible for vandalism or damage caused by wildlife. I will clear any control measures that I intend to use with the Project Coordinator.
- Any fencing must first be cleared with the Project Coordinator.
- If I bring young children to the garden, I will supervise them the entire time.
- If I bring a dog to the garden, I will keep it under control and cleanup after it.
- The WCG understands that we all have minor disruptions to our schedules, (due to illness, vacations, business etc.) If you require assistance for a short period of time, please call the Project Coordinator, volunteers can be arranged to water or harvest etc.
- If I must abandon my plot for any reason, I will notify the Project Coordinator immediately. Should you choose to end your participation or have had your gardening privileges terminated for noncompliance with the agreement, any plants and border materials must be removed in one week or they will be considered a donation to the project.
- I will end my gardening season with a complete clean out of my plot, leaving it raked and clean by October 15.
- I am aware that gardening in the WCG is a privilege and that the above agreement will be strictly enforced.
- I understand that neither the City of Woodbury nor the other gardeners are responsible for my actions. I therefore agree to sign the attached Hold Harmless Agreement.
- I agree to pay \$10.00 (ten) in cash for the purpose of insurance for the Community Garden. This fee will be collected by Amelie at the time of signing of the Woodbury Community Garden Agreement.

Signature

Name

Address

Phone

Email

Date

Project Coordinator: Amélie H-McGeehan

Phone number: 856-845-0371