



# Community Gardens

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## We put the “COMMUNITY” in Community Garden.

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Access to the Community Garden is available to ALL individuals and families who have residences in The Hills at Charlesworth. We encourage our residents to host social events such as group work days and potlucks so that our community gardeners have an opportunity to meet 'n' mingle. Our goal is to preserve and share the Community Garden to enable our residents with the opportunity to garden in their little patch of earth.

The Board of Directors elected by the Homeowners' Association oversees the operations and maintenance of Community Garden. The Homeowners' Association acts in the best interest of the community and the gardeners to fulfill the mission of providing an opportunity for residents to enjoy the health, social, economic, and environmental benefits of local organic gardening in their community.

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### 1. Garden Membership

To become a member of The Hills at Charlesworth Community Garden, individuals must:

- Currently be a resident of The Hills at Charlesworth.
- Be a member in good standing with the Homeowners' Association which is defined as not being in arrears with HOA membership dues.
- Agree to the Garden Code of Conduct (see section 4).
- Agree to follow the Garden Practices (see section 5).

### 2. Garden Membership Fees

Garden member fees are included with the annual membership dues for the Homeowners' Association. No additional fees are required to garden.

### 3. Plot Assignment and Allocation

Garden plots are approximately 5' x 15 feet and are assigned to an individual gardener/couple/family of the same address living within The Hills at Charlesworth. Members who have been gardeners in good standing may request additional plots if a waiting list is not present. A maximum of 2 plots can be allocated to an individual gardener/couple/family. Plots may not be traded, sublet, or registered to someone “in name only” while a friend or relative uses the space. All plot assignment is undertaken solely by the Homeowners' Association.

If a waiting list exists for plot assignments, the Homeowners' Association has the discretion to subdivide existing plots in the subsequent year to provide increased plot space for residents.

### 4. Code of Conduct

- Every gardener is an ambassador of The Hills at Charlesworth Community Garden as well as the Homeowners' Association. As such, gardeners will act with respect and care towards others.

- Gardeners are responsible for their designated plot and the common areas. Plots will be identified by a number and a Gardener will be assigned to an individual plot.

- Gardeners have the right to receive information and notice about future project proposals that would affect the gardens.

- Gardeners have the right to give input into the decisions made on the Community Garden.

- Gardeners are responsible for bringing their own tools and supplies as part of their gardening practices.

- Gardeners will work in a safe manner and help to ensure the safety of all gardeners, garden visitors, and garden property. Any injury, damage, or theft will be immediately reported to the Homeowners' Association.

### 5. Garden Practices

Gardeners will plant his/her plot by June 1st of each calendar year. Gardeners are responsible for his/her plot: seeding, maintenance (weeding, watering, trimming plants to keep them from your neighbors' plot or the public walkways, harvesting), and clean up. Gardeners may not disturb (weed, harvest, etc.) the plots of other gardeners. Please contact the Homeowners' Association for any issues you may have with other gardeners' plots.

- Restricted and noxious plants are not permitted. See the Alberta government website for a list of restricted and noxious plants. Nuisance species such as dandelion are not permitted.

- Horseradish, rhubarb, raspberries, mint, etc. are discouraged since they spread quickly. Please contact the Homeowners' Association Committee if you have a proposal to grow these (or similar) crops.

- Perennials are permitted but must be removed if gardener is leaving the plot (i.e. not gardening the following season).



- Because this is an organic garden, the use of pesticides, herbicides, fungicides and chemical/synthetic fertilizers is strictly prohibited. Permitted soil amendments are: compost, fish meal, bone meal, kelp, and composted manure (not fresh manure), etc. Please ask the Homeowners' Association if you are unsure.

- Water conservation practices will be employed to reduce water use. Rain barrels will not be permitted in the Community Garden as residents will have COMPLETE access to use the 500-gallon rainwater collection system operated by the Homeowners' Association. A hose will be made available for use by gardeners.

- Containers, pots, and trellises are not permitted outside of a gardener's plot (e.g. on pathway, greenspace, etc.).

- Recycling of material is supported. However, use of items such as discarded shipping pallets and rubber tires, that are not appropriate for a garden environment, are not allowed.

- Plots must be cleared by November 1st of that calendar year

## 6. Grievances

Any gardener may report a grievance under the terms of the garden contract to the Homeowners' Association. A grievance should be received in writing and describe the full details. The Homeowners' Association will review the details at the next board meeting, contact all parties involved to receive full information, and make a decision on the matter by vote.

## 7. Termination of Contract

Acts in violation of this contract will result in formal written warning from the Homeowners' Association. If violation continues, the Board of Directors will formally speak to the individual(s) as a final warning. If violation still continues, the Board of Directors on behalf of the Homeowners' Association may vote to terminate the contract for the gardener(s) immediately and will issue formal written and verbal notice of this decision. The plot will be immediately revoked and assigned to the next person on the garden's wait list.

## 8. Privacy

Personal information is kept confidential and is only available to the Homeowners' Association. All information may only be released with the consent of the member. Once you have read the above contract, please complete the information below. The Homeowners' Association will provide an executed copy to all gardeners.

Name (PLEASE PRINT): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I allow my e-mail address to be shared with other garden members Yes\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_