

Washington Township Community Garden Guidelines – 2021 Growing Season

Each gardener will be allocated a 12'x14' plot in the Washington Township Community Garden at Amlin Crossing Park, 5468 Cosgray Road, Dublin. Gardeners will be given the option of retaining the same plot from year to year. Plots will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis, with priority given to returning gardeners. Returning gardeners have until February 28 to reserve their same plot from the previous year. After February 28, plots will be assigned on a first come first serve basis. Gardeners will be notified of their plot assignment no later than March 30. Should demand exceed plot availability, gardeners will be placed on a waiting list (contact Kori Hurley 614-652-3947 or khurley@wtwp.com to be put on the waiting list). An Annual fee of \$40 (WT residents) and \$50 (non-residents) is due at registration. The annual Community Garden meeting will be Tuesday, April 20 at 7pm via Zoom (link will be e-mailed to gardeners).

Each gardener is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of their garden plot during the garden season, from April 15 through November 10. Watering, weeding, harvesting, and any other garden related maintenance are all the responsibility of the gardener. It is also the responsibility of the gardener to keep the walkways surrounding their plot clear and free of trash and supplies. Planting must commence by June 15th. Washington Township tills all garden plots in the fall.

If you are interested in a second pot, please contact Kori Hurley 614-652-3947 or e-mail khurley@wtwp.com to see if a plot is available. Plots may or may not be adjacent to other plot.

1. Plant non-invasive annual plants and seeds only.
2. Access to the community garden is available from dawn to dusk, seven days a week during the garden season.
3. Garden plots should be cared for regularly. It is the gardener's responsibility to notify the Garden Committee if they are not able to care for their plot for an extended period of time. If any plot becomes un-kept through neglect, the gardener will be given notice to clean it up. If the clean-up does not occur within ten days the garden will be subject to reassignment and the fee is forfeited.
4. At the end of the growing season, gardeners are responsible for "putting the garden to bed" and leaving the plot free of any plant material, fencing, etc. in order to qualify for a garden plot in future years.
5. Children are welcome in the garden but must be accompanied by an adult and must be supervised at all times.
6. No drugs or alcohol are permitted in the park. Persons are permitted on Washington Township property only when not under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
7. No pets are permitted in the garden. Pets are permitted in the park on a leash.
8. Gardeners may only pick their own crops, unless given permission by another gardener.
9. The application of non-organic pesticides (insecticides, herbicides, fungicides) is prohibited. Organic practices are preferred.
- 10. Gardeners should give consideration to others by planting tall crops where they will have the least impact on neighboring gardeners. Tall plantings should not be placed where they will shade neighboring plots.**
11. Brick and timber borders are not permitted.
12. Perimeter fences are discouraged, but if used must appear neat and tidy and must be kept weed/grass free. No structures may obstruct vision throughout the garden. Exceptions are trellises and wire used to grow climbing plants, which may not exceed 6'. No treated wood may be used.
13. Never throw anything such as trash, weeds, plant material, spoiled fruits or vegetables in the field surrounding the garden. A garden waste pile will be maintained for such purposes. The garden waste pile is for organic matter only. Plastic trays, plant containers, and other trash should not be discarded at the community garden site.
14. The Garden Committee is responsible for ensuring that the rules are followed at all times. Issues will be discussed at periodic meetings. Discussions will be communicated via email.

15. **NO WASTE POLICY.** Gardeners are encouraged to plant extra for the food pantry. If for some reason you are unable to harvest your produce please call Kori Hurley at 614-652-3947 or e-mail khurley@wtwp.com for assistance. **If your garden appears to have food which is not being harvested we will make an attempt to contact you to see if you need assistance. If we do not hear back from you within 3 days your produce may be harvested and donated to the food pantry.**
16. Trash Policy is Carry in/Carry Out. There is no trash receptacle on site.
17. Water is provided at the garden. Hose guidelines are:
- Gardeners must be at the garden while hose is in use
 - Gardeners must detach hose and put in bucket/pot when done
 - Be careful not to drag hose onto other gardeners' plots
18. This garden agreement is subject to change.

Stay Safe & Healthy

While getting outside to enjoy nature is important during COVID-19, social contact increases the risk of spreading the disease. Please exercise an abundance of caution by doing everything you can to stay safe while gardening.

1. Visit the garden alone or with members of your own household.
2. Use your own tools when possible. If tools must be shared, you are responsible to wash/disinfect tools before and after each use (the shed will not be open or available to use).
3. Do not share gloves. Please supply your own washable gloves and clean them after each garden visit.
4. Be aware of high touch surfaces. Each gardener is responsible for sanitizing water spigot sources, hoses, etc. before and after each use.
5. Practice physical distancing. Please stay at least six feet (an arm and a shovel) distance from others.
6. Wash your hands regularly. Bring hand sanitizer to use before and after you garden.
7. If more than 9 people are gardening, come back later. There should be no more than 9 people at the garden at one time, if there are please either wait in your car or come back later.
8. Wear a face covering when possible if multiple people are at the garden.
9. Thoroughly wash all produce you harvest at home, the water at the garden is non-potable
10. When in doubt, stay home. Do not come to the garden if you or someone in your home is
1) experiencing an illness 2) a member of a vulnerable population.
11. If these regulations are not followed, or if virus spread results in further state or local stay at home orders, we will have no choice but to close the garden for this growing season.

