

THE GARDEN GUIDELINES FOR THE PERTH DUPONT COMMUNITY GARDEN

Please keep this copy for your personal reference

English Version

Last updated April 2, 2018

A community garden is a place to grow your own vegetables and flowers. It is run using a communal decision-making process.

All Gardeners and their guests are expected to observe the following garden guidelines. Each member of the community garden has an important role to play in our garden. These guidelines are to protect the rights of all the gardeners, and to help the community garden run in a smooth and efficient way.

1. In joining the Perth Dupont Community Garden (PDCG), I will participate in the spirit of community gardening by actively participating in the PDCG community activities.
2. I will practice organic gardening. If I want to learn more about organic gardening I will reach out to experienced gardeners in the PDCG.
3. The deadline for registration is May 15 of each year. It is my responsibility to get my registration forms and fees into the appointed person by this time each year. As stated in the city's **Program Regulations**, if I have not started my plot by June 1st, I will receive a reminder from a member of the Steering Committee. If they have not received a reply, or if the plot still isn't started by June 15th, it will be given to the next person on the waiting list.
4. It is expected that I come to the garden at least once a week to care for my own garden plot, and to perform my garden support tasks.
5. I understand that if my plot is neglected for more than two weeks (plants that are wilting due to lack of water or that have produce falling to the ground), I will receive a warning and my ripe produce may be donated to a community food kitchen or food bank. If I have not made contact with a member of the Steering committee, I understand that my plot will be given to the next person on the waiting list, or taken over by another member of the Perth Dupont Community Garden.
6. If I am unable to care for my garden for a period of time, due to an illness or family emergency, I will notify a member of the Administration Team. As well, if I am going on vacation, I will notify someone on the Steering committee or Admin Team and let them know who will be caring for my garden while I am away.
7. I understand that if I can no longer maintain my plot, or no longer wish to garden at the Perth Dupont Community garden, I will notify one the Garden Administrator(s), who will assign the plot to the next person on the waiting list. Plots may **not** be inherited by my friends or family members.

Note: 10x10 ft plots are the standard size for garden plots. If a gardener in a 10x20 plot decides to leave the garden the plot will be split in half. This will not affect current plot-holders.

8. It is my responsibility to remain informed of Perth Dupont Community Garden events and updates by signing up for the garden Google Group (email forum) and reading signs posted in the Garden Shed. If email is not an appropriate way to communicate with me, I will inform the Garden Admin(s) and someone will contact me by phone. It is my responsibility to keep my phone number up-to-date.

9. If I have more food than I can use, I will tell the Garden Coordinator(s), and will help make arrangements to have it donated. We also have a basket in the shed for sharing excess produce. Place the basket outside the shed when you have something to offer and put it back in the shed when empty.

10. I will keep my plants and gardening activity limited to my own plot. I will prevent my plants from sprawling onto walkways and adjacent gardens. I will stay out of other people's gardens, I will not plant, harvest or pull weeds in someone else's plot unless specifically invited by that gardener. I will keep my plot borders neat and not extended into any pathways or encroach onto any neighbouring plots.

11. I will be mindful of who is in the garden with me. If I see someone I don't recognize, I can greet them and explain the nature of the garden to them. Friendliness may help deter theft!

12. I understand that *handling* cigarettes or other tobacco products can spread the **Tobacco Mosaic Virus**. I will refrain from smoking in the garden area and will make sure that I wash my hands before touching tools or plants. I will make sure that my guests are aware of this restriction. Please see the online document titled Tomato-Tobacco Mosaic Virus for more information

•<http://perth-dupont.parkcommons.ca/wiki/uploads/InTheGardenShed/Tomato-TobaccoMosaicVirus-2010.pdf>

13. I will keep the garden free of garbage and use the garbage can next to the shed or the recycling and garbage containers provided by the city to the west of the tennis courts.

14. I will pay a fee of \$5 for the garden shed key, which remains the property of the Perth Dupont Community Garden. When I no longer have a plot in the garden, I will return the key to the Garden Admins(s) without delay.

15. Above and beyond maintaining my garden, I am expected to:

A) Join *at least* one of the teams from the **Working Group Teams** (to share the workload of caring for the common areas and operations of our community garden). Experienced (*Suggested* second year) gardeners may also volunteer to be Team Leaders.

B) Participate in the spring and fall clean-up days by coming to the garden to help out. In the event that I cannot make it to a fall or spring work bee day, I will make arrangements with the Clean Up Catpaw or any member of the Steering committee to take part in an appropriate task at another time.

16. Composting and dealing with my weeds. The composter is a way for the garden to deal with organic garden waste while at the same time produce a good quality soil enhancer. To support the compost program, I will chop my weeds and other green plant material into 2" - 4" pieces, and I will not put whole plants into the bin. If my weeds are too tough or large (like sunflower stalks and tomato vines) to chop, then I will bring my own yard-waste bags. I will take care to follow the bag instructions and not make them too full or too heavy. I will not leave any weeds or dirt on the pathways or the grass.

17. I will bring yard-waste bags to the designated spot – just *outside* of the north west corner of the garden area (outside the gate), near the train tracks - for the City of Toronto waste management crew to pick up.

18. I will not plant morning glory seeds and I will eradicate (pull out by the roots and remove) any morning glory plants found in my plot or any of the communal plots, and notify the Horticultural Maintenance Team Leader if I see any of the plants in someone else's plot.

19. Care of tools in the Garden Shed and bunker. I will be careful with the tools that I use from the garden shed and make sure that I return them when I am finished using them. I realize that I must report damaged or broken tools to the Operational Maintenance Team Leader. I will make sure that the shed is locked when I leave the garden. I will refrain from storing personal belongings in the shed or bunker when I am not at the garden.

20. Posts and stakes. I am welcome to bring my own creative materials for staking up my tomatoes and other large, climbing plants. Here are two things I will remember:

A) For safety reasons, my stakes cannot have paint on them, or any nails sticking out. The Garden Admin(s) will ask me to remove them from the garden area immediately.

B) I must not block the sun from the neighbouring garden plots or the pathways. Anything that is higher than 3 feet, must be 2 feet away from the adjoining gardens, or pathways. If the Garden Coordinator(s) receives any complaints about the height or distance of my stakes, I will be asked to change their position.

Conflict resolution and non-compliance

Please report to the Garden Admin(s) or other member of the Steering Committee if issues arise with another gardener. We will try and help resolve the situation. The Supervisor of the Community Gardens and Urban Farm Programs may also be called in. If you have any concerns about the Garden Coordinator(s) you may contact someone from the Steering Committee directly.

In the event of non-compliance with the above rules and guidelines, the Garden Coordinator(s) will issue a written notice to the member. If at the end of a two-week period or after two warnings the problem has not been resolved, the plot will be reassigned and membership will be revoked. The garden key must be returned at this time.

Additional garden etiquette

The produce from the Edible Landscape Garden and Raspberry Patch are for all the gardeners to use. Gardeners and volunteers may take some in a modest manner. Please use scissors or other clipping tools to harvest, so as not to damage the plants.

To help prevent the tennis players from walking across the garden beds looking for their tennis balls, the gardeners are requested to put any tennis balls they find in the designated basket near the garden shed. Balls in the basket are not to be used as dog balls.

Signature Page

Signature Page - copy to be kept by the gardener

I understand the above rules and regulations and promise to follow them.

Signature of the Gardener _____

Date _____

Signature of the Coordinator _____

PAID THE YEARLY FEE \$15: _____

Important Contact Information

- Non-emergency police calls: (416) 808-2222 (ask for the radio room)
- Canadian Pacific Railway: You have to tell them that you are calling from Toronto ON. The community Garden is located just south west of the "Symington Overpass" and its location number is 26241
- C.P.R. Police: 1 800-551-2553 (for urgent matters)