Holly Park Community Garden Guidelines and Agreement

Holly Park Community Garden has as its principal objectives the development of an inclusive community and a spirit of openness and cooperation among its members and the promotion of organic gardening methods.

Welcome to Holly Park Community Garden Season 2015!

In order to facilitate an enjoyable and safe gardening experience for everyone, the following Holly Park Community Garden Guidelines have been established for each plot-holder to read and sign.

These guidelines will form the basis for your participation as a Holly Park Community Garden Plot Holder from March 2015 to November 2015. Each gardener must agree to abide by the intent of the guidelines as a condition of participation.

We wish you a safe and enjoyable gardening experience again this year and encourage you to meet your neighbours!
Holly Park Community Garden Guidelines

As a Garden User, I agree to:

1. Renew this agreement on an annual basis and pay my annual garden fees prior to April 1st of each year.

2. Dig over and clean the plot by April 15th and start planting by May 15th of each year, and weed and maintain the plot throughout the garden season in a timely fashion.

3. Keep my plants and gardening structures within the plot boundaries provided that gardening structures such as trellises and cloches are permitted if they do not encroach upon paths, community spaces, or neighbouring plots.

4. Act as the primary gardener of the plot throughout the garden season. In addition, if I am away for part of the growing season, or are unable to maintain the plot for any reason, I will inform the Garden Coordinator as soon as possible and before my absence. Garden plots may only be reassigned by the Garden Coordinator to ensure the garden wait list is fairly consulted.

5. Attend the spring and fall general meetings and contribute to the maintenance and/or coordination of the Community Garden for a minimum of 8 hours each year.

6. Dispose of garden cuttings and trimmings in a responsible and timely fashion. I acknowledge that waste materials are not to be placed on paths or in common areas but to be composted or taken offsite. Diseased plants must be removed from the garden and not composted onsite. Food/organic waste from outside of the garden cannot be brought into the community garden for composting.

7. Adhere to organic gardening practices. Herbicides (weed killers), insecticides, chemical fertilizers, animal poisons and non-organic materials (including treated wood and animal poisons) are not permitted. If I am unsure if a substance is permitted, I will consult with the Garden Coordinator prior to application of the substance in the Plot.

8. Clean and return borrowed tools and equipment to the storage area when I am finished using them. Under no circumstances are the communal garden tools (i.e. rakes, hoes, shovels, wheelbarrows, etc.) to leave the vicinity of the Community Garden.

9. Keep the garden shed tidy and organized and remove any garbage. Garbage may not be left on site at any time.

10. Respect and protect other garden plots and the community garden as a whole. Taking anything from garden plots other than your own is considered theft. Do not spoil the gardening experience of others by picking or destroying items in the garden. Report suspicious or negative activity in the garden to the Parks Department at 604-501-5050.
11. Plan, plant, maintain, harvest and provide general care and attention to the plot throughout the season while considering impacts to my neighbours’ garden plots. Please plant tall crops where they will not shade neighbouring plots. I agree to harvest crops as they mature, and remove dead or diseased plants and litter from the Plot and surrounding areas. I agree to cover plants susceptible to blight (including tomatoes and potatoes) before the rains begin to prevent infection and remove plants that have gone to seed, to prevent them from spreading to neighbouring plots.

12. “Winterize” the Plot by November 1st of each year. “Winterize” means that plots must be tidied and prepared for winter, preferably by mulching, planting cover crops, and/or planting winter crops.

13. Leave my pets at home. No pets, with the exception of visual aid dogs, are allowed in the community garden at any time.

14. Abide by the opening hours of the Community Garden. The community garden is open from dawn until dusk, seven days a week.

15. Regulate the conduct of my friends and family visiting the community garden. Family members are welcome to the garden site and are expected to abide by the same agreement guidelines as plot holders. Please supervise young children so they do not disturb other garden plots.

16. Hand-water the Plot and practice responsible water use. Water is a limited resource, and should be used sparingly. Where feasible, gardeners are encouraged to collect and use rainwater for irrigation. The use of sprinklers is not permitted as it encourages weeds in the pathways. Please ensure water is turned off and not dripping when watering is completed. Take care not to spray neighbouring plots. You must be present while watering your plot.

17. Establish and encourage appropriate species of plants in my garden plot. The planting of any trees or invasive plant species is not permitted. If you are unsure if a species is appropriate for the garden, please consult with your Garden Coordinator.

18. Advise the Garden Coordinator of any change of address, email address or phone number for contact purposes.

19. If driving to the garden, I will park my vehicle in an appropriate parking space. No vehicles are permitted access within the community garden site, with the exception of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and City service vehicles.

20. Present any and all complaints to the Society or Garden Group that operates the Community Garden before they are referred to the City.

21. Advise the Garden Coordinator if I cannot keep one or more of the above commitments for any reason, or if I choose to terminate my garden membership.
22. To comply with City of Surrey by-laws and all senior government laws and regulations. Plot holders identified as being non-compliant to the above guidelines will be notified in writing and be given a 30-day grace period to bring the Plot up to standard, after which the Plot may be cleaned out and reassigned to another party on the waiting list.

23. I hereby acknowledge that I have read and understand the terms and regulations set forth in the Individual Garden User Agreement, and agree to meet all the requirements in order to qualify for membership, lease or renewal of the Plot.

24. I understand that neither the Society nor the City is responsible for my actions. I agree to hold harmless the Society and the City for any liability, damage, loss or claim that may occur in connection with the use of the garden by me or by any visitor to the Plot.

25. I understand that if I do not adhere to the above guidelines and rules my plot may be reassigned during the garden season or my membership may not be renewed at the end of the season.

26. I further agree that infringement of the Society’s By-laws, City By-laws or this agreement may result in cancellation of membership.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF the City and the Garden User have executed this agreement effective as of the date of this agreement.

I _____________________________ (print), and _____________________________ (print), (co-signer/interpreter, if applicable) hereby acknowledge that I have read and understand the terms and regulations set forth in the Lionel-Courchene Community Garden Guidelines, and agree to meet all the requirements in order to qualify for membership, lease or renewal of a garden plot.

I understand that neither Can You Dig It, the garden group, nor the City of Surrey is responsible for my actions. I agree to hold harmless Can You Dig It, the garden group and the City of Surrey for any liability, damage, loss or claim that may occur in connection with the use of the garden by me or by any visitor to my garden plot.

I understand that if I do not adhere to the above guidelines and rules my plot may be reassigned during the garden season or my membership may not be renewed at the end of the season.

I/we further agree that infringement of the Garden Guidelines and By-laws, or City By-laws may result in cancellation of membership.

Signature of plot holder: _____________________________ Date: ________________

Signature of Garden Coordinator: _____________________________ Date: ________________

Name: ____________________________________________ Plot #: ___________________

Address: ____________________________ Postal Code: ____________________________

Daytime Phone #: ____________________________ Evening Phone #: ____________________________

Email address: ____________________________________________

Paid Registration fee (20.00) □

Committee: 1st choice: ____________________________

2nd choice: ____________________________

See ‘Description of Garden Committee’ document for explanation of different Committee roles. Please choose according to what matches your skills, or what you would like to challenge yourself to learn. This will be how you volunteer your minimum of 8 hours and remember:

For statistics only - How many people will participate in caring for the plot / visit the plot?: __________

For statistics only - Do you consider yourself a newcomer to Canada (5 years or less)?: __________