

Membership Contract

Welcome to the Terwillegar Community Garden! This program is provided through the Terwillegar Community League and the Partners-in-Parks Program of the City of Edmonton.

The vision of our program is:

To tend to an enduring and evolving, environmentally conscious and sustainable community garden; endeavoring to cultivate comradery and extend enriching and educational experiences to everyone.

Conditions of Membership:

1. There are no conditions on gardening ability or background to participate in the community garden.
2. The garden is a program of the Terwillegar Community League and as such a current membership in a community league is required.
3. Members must be at least 18 years of age and anyone under the age of 18 who is assisting with the garden activities must do so with the express consent of their parent/guardian.
4. The Membership Contract must be signed and Fees must be paid by the deadline to ensure the member's plot assignment.
5. The member must be in good standing with the garden. ***A history of failure to comply with the outlined responsibilities may result in denial of membership, or loss of position for re-application. The Garden Committee has the power to decide on appropriate disciplinary action for any violation of this contract including termination of membership.***
6. Returning members in good standing will be given priority plot assignment, such as requesting to retain their plot, pending availability of the land and allowing for any crop rotation issues.
7. Members must not sublet their plots under any circumstances, unless consideration and subsequent approval is given by the Garden Committee.
8. E-mail is the preferred method of correspondence. We do not send out marketing or chain mail and you will not receive anything other than notice of garden affairs, meetings and information requests. Contact information may be shared with other members.
9. Members should feel free to communicate with the Garden Committee at any time, about any issues arising in the garden – they are here to represent the membership and ensure a pleasant gardening experience for all.

Fees:

1. Fees are determined annually based on the estimated operational costs of the garden for the year and are non-refundable. Fees are on a per plot basis – not per person – as they are to cover operational costs on a per plot basis.
2. ***A current community league membership is required in order to be eligible for a garden plot.***
3. ***The non-refundable registration fee for 2025 is \$30 per plot. Only cash payment will be accepted.***

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Responsibilities of Membership:

1. Site responsibilities:
2. Members are responsible for the following:
 - a. **Plot & General Area:**
 - i. For the upkeep and regular maintenance and weeding of their own plot and surrounding pathways. It is recommended that membership place weed block fabric around their plots and cover with mulch (woodchip, grass clippings).
 - ii. Abandonment or serious neglect of a plot (i.e. weeds going to seed) will result in intervention by the Garden Committee.
 - iii. Keep surrounding pathways to plots open for passage (0.7m)
 - iv. Only planting in their designated area (10' x 10' / 3.3m x 3.3m).
 - v. Providing assistance whenever possible to other gardeners upon request.
 - vi. Respecting the plots of other members and not entering other plots without permission. A member is responsible for the activities of any guests in their company while on site.
 - vii. Stealing from or damaging another gardener's plot will result in termination of membership and forfeit of deposit.
 - viii. We respectfully request that, as a courtesy to all members, the garden remain a fresh air experience and all members and their guests refrain from smoking in the garden.
 - b. **Composting:**

A compost system has not been established at the garden site, so all garbage and compost is to be removed by members.

***** DO NOT PILE GARBAGE OR COMPOST NEXT TO THE SHED**
 - c. **Watering:**
 - i. Employing water conservation techniques. The tanks will be refilled by volunteers when the Garden Committee is notified of low water level in the tanks.
 - ii. Using on-site water responsibly and only for watering the plants of the garden.
 - iii. Using watering cans to water newly seeded areas and plants, not unplanted areas. Water at the base of the plant.
 - iv. Making sure the soil is dry before watering.

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d. Planting:

- i. Providing your own seeds and plants.
- ii. Planting and harvesting your plot in a timely fashion.
- iii. Refraining from planting of perennials or those with an invasive root system (i.e. horseradish or rhubarb).
- iv. ***The use of vertical growing techniques is welcome. These plots will be localized to the north end of the garden so all garden plots have sun access.***

e. Tools:

- i. Leaving community tools clean & in good repair in the locked shed after use. Please notify the Garden Committee of any damage that occurs.
- ii. Keeping the shed tidy and locked at all times.
- iii. Clearly labeling personal tools left in the shed as such. These tools are left at the members own risk.
- iv. Any loss or damage to personal equipment and tools used while at the garden.

f. Pocket Gopher Control:

- i. Obtain training on how to use the traps
- ii. Use the traps provided to reduce pocket gopher numbers. If they are damaged report it to the garden coordinator
- iii. Follow garden procedures to mark where traps are set
- iv. Visit traps daily when in use in your plot
- v. Return traps to the garden shed when not in use

3. The garden's land use agreement specifies the following terms and conditions that must be adhered to:
 - a. No application of herbicides or pesticides or other chemicals.
 - b. Maintain the site at a high level of cleanliness, order and tidiness. Remove weeds and litter and ensure that tools are not left unattended.
 - c. At the end of the season the site is to be cleaned up with plots cultivated and the surrounding area left in a clean and tidy condition.

4. Volunteer responsibilities:

- a. The garden is made possible by the efforts and dedication of its volunteers. As such we strongly encourage all members to participate generously in the volunteer opportunities available through

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the operation of the garden. At this time, we have decided not to require compulsory volunteer commitments from the membership, other than the Spring Site Prep & Fall Clean-ups. We reserve the right to re-evaluate this policy at any time based on the level of commitment exhibited by the membership.

- b. Participation in work bees such as Spring Site Preparation, Fall Clean-up and any improvement/maintenance projects is encouraged and appreciated.
 - c. General site maintenance and clean-up throughout the season: weeding, filling the water barrels, picking up and removing garbage from the site. *All gardeners are responsible for removing their own potting and plant materials.***
 - d. Participation in maintenance of any common gardening areas.
 - e. Participation on one of our committees is strongly encouraged, but not mandatory.
 - f. Participation in scheduled social events is strongly encouraged, but not mandatory.
5. Vandalism and Theft:
The garden is public property and, as such, is vulnerable to vandalism and theft. All members are to assist in promoting the security of the garden and are to report any incidents to the Garden Committee.

This includes theft or destruction by other members – plants, garden structures or tools are NOT to be removed from a plot unless it is assigned to you. Each member is responsible for supplying their own garden materials.

Theft by any garden member will result in that member being removed from the Community Garden.

2025

Terwillegar Community Garden

A Terwillegar community League program

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I have read and agree to comply with the above rules and accept the responsibilities of membership. I am aware that failure to comply may result in the termination of my membership with the Terwillegar Community Garden Program.

I understand that participation in the garden is at my own risk.

I also understand that the garden group, associated sponsors, nor the owners of the land are responsible for my actions, or those of my guests, while they are on the land. I therefore agree to hold harmless the Terwillegar Community Garden group, associates or sponsors, and the City of Edmonton, its employees or agents, for any liability, expense, action, suit, damage, loss or claim that occurs in connection with the use of the garden by me or any of my family, friends, guests or pets, etc.

I understand that my name, phone number and e-mail address may be shared with other garden members.

Date: _____ Name (please print): _____

Signature: _____