

## **Guidelines (Rev. D: 12/13/2024)**

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### **Mission**

The Temple Terrace Community Garden (TTCG) is a public space where members, friends, and family can come together to enjoy a safe, healthy, creative community of caring people. Gardening is fun, relaxing, and fulfilling.

### **Locations**

TTCG currently has gardens in 3 locations. All 3 locations have individual and communal beds.

Plot 1 is located in Riverhills Park near Scout Park.

Plot 2 is located at Greco Middle School, in between the school and the track.

Plot 3 is located southwest of the corner of 113<sup>th</sup> Ave and 62<sup>nd</sup> St. Vehicle access is from the north end of N 61<sup>st</sup> St from Whiteway Ave.

### **Benefits**

Individual garden sites are available in all 3 locations. Other benefits include communal gardening, community composting, classes on gardening, cooking, nutrition (and more as requested by members), celebrations and community events.

### **Planning Committee**

The Planning Committee (PC) is the elected governing body of the TTCG. The PC is responsible for all planning and governance decisions of the TTCG. More details of the PC organization can be found in the TTCG Bylaws. Please consult a member of the PC with any questions that arise.

### **Participation**

The TTCG is a community project that welcomes everyone who is willing to participate. Thus, to ensure an atmosphere of cooperation and friendship in our garden, we ask everyone to come with an open mind and a willingness to accept all people. Full membership benefits will be extended to everyone regardless of race, color, religion, familial status, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or anything else.

Communal garden tools are provided for everyone's use. Please enjoy them and treat them with respect. Please clean them thoroughly and return to the shed.

TTCG is eager to have children of all ages share in the community garden experience. However, we ask that parents supervise children less than 15 years of age.

The TTCG is a very active organization, both in building and maintaining gardens, and in participating in community events. Please talk to a PC member if you would like to participate. Members are expected to participate in general garden maintenance and upkeep as well as special events such as seasonal openings and closings.

### **Membership Dues**

The TTCG membership is \$20 per household, per year, September through August. .

### **Individual Plots**

Individual beds will be allocated every September. Members are strongly encouraged to spend at least one season as a communal garden member before being allowed to become an Individual plot member.

### **Gardening Guidelines**

The Temple Terrace Community Garden is committed to encouraging people to garden in socially and environmentally responsible ways. Diversity is encouraged. Please try to plant at least three species each season.

All plots are to be gardened organically. Use organic plants when possible. In general, soil fertility is maintained by creating optimal conditions for soil biological activity through crop rotations and the maintenance of soil organic content. Judicious use of organic and natural mineral soil amendments may also be practiced. Application of organic fertilizer, pesticide, insecticide, herbicide and/or agricultural use chemicals shall be consistent with product label instructions and all applicable local, state, and federal laws. Integrated Pest Management and Organic Gardening are strongly encouraged. Processed mineral fertilizers may be acceptable for short-term use, ONLY with prior written permission.

### **Weed Control**

Herbicides of any kind are prohibited in ALL plots, as they are hazardous to human health, may kill or damage desirable crops, drift into neighboring gardens, or persist in the soil. Hoeing, mulching, and hand weeding are acceptable alternatives.

### **Insect Control**

Synthetic insecticides are prohibited in ALL Temple Terrace Community Garden plots. Acceptable pest control methods are crop rotation, hand picking of insect pests, introduction of predator species, companion planting, soil solarization, and biological controls (e.g. *Bacillus thuringiensis*).

As a last resort, natural botanicals, like rotenone and pyrethrum (that break down quickly and do not leave harmful residues in the soil) may be used. Please consult with garden coordinators before using any biological or botanical items.

### **Disease Control**

Most problems can be controlled by maintaining healthy soil, selecting disease-resistant varieties, and removing diseased plants from the garden. Please consult with the Planning Committee if you are having any issues with diseases in your site.

### **Fertilizers and Soil Amendments**

Commercial inorganic fertilizers (ie: 5-1-5, Miracle Grow, etc.) are not permitted. Products of plant or animal origin i.e. compost, leaf mold, livestock manure, blood and bone meal, cover crops, fish emulsion, kelp meal, liquid seaweed, and commercial organic fertilizers are acceptable.

Natural mineral fertilizers, i.e. greensand, granite dust, and ground limestone are also acceptable with prior written approval. Gardeners are strongly urged to add as much organic material (i.e. compost, leaf mold, and manure) as possible to their plots to maintain soil fertility.

### **Prohibited Species**

Temple Terrace Community Gardens cannot allow plants with the following characteristics to be grown in any of the gardens without written permission of the Planning Committee: Exotic species; invasive species; illegal or dangerous plants.

### **Unkempt Plots**

Decent upkeep of your rented garden plot is mandatory. Unkempt plots cause a lot of issues in the garden. It shows our hosts, and the community at large, that we aren't using their land and donations to the fullest. Overripe produce encourages garden theft, and attracts pests. Overly weedy plots build tension between gardeners, especially with those that would like more space to use. Many hours have been spent organizing, building and maintaining these garden spaces, and they deserve to be used to their fullest.

The application rules state you have one week to rectify any problems. On noticing an issue, we'll email you a request to fix the issue. Please respond to the email with your plan, or with a request for assistance. If action isn't taken, or plans aren't communicated, a second notice will be sent. If the issues aren't resolved within seven days of this second notice, your plot will be reassigned.

### **Information**

The TTCG maintains a garden website, an email notification list and a Facebook page to share information with members. Ask your garden's coordinator how you can help!

## **Welcome to the Garden!**