

Nutana Community Association

2019 Gardeners Agreement for the Remai Garden

The Nutana Community Association (NCA) gardens aim to improve health through physical activity, community involvement and the organic cultivation of food and flowers. The gardens provide a space for learning and development for all ages and cultures and beautify the urban landscape. Our community gardens foster respect for gardeners, gardens, and the environment .



Remai Garden coordinator – Margot Hawke
Contact: remai.garden@nutana.ca

Membership Responsibilities

- 1. Register as a Member of the Garden:** Membership fee \$25.00, NCA fee \$10.
Membership includes the use of a garden plot, access to the tool shed, access to water and compost facilities; members are individually responsible for meeting the conditions outlined in this garden agreement (3 pages), including individual plot and general garden maintenance. Plots will be assigned by May 1st - a coloured flag in each plot will identify the member's name and plot number.
- 2. Sign up for work bees/ Volunteer to lead work bees** for general garden maintenance: Sweet peas (planting and ongoing watering), Raspberry patch (May workbee), Water supply (ongoing liaison with the Fire Dept), Wood chips (May workbee to spread chips on all garden paths), Shed maintenance (painting workbee and some ongoing tool maintenance), Weeding common areas (ongoing work, including weeds outside 12th St fence), ... see page 3 for tentative dates for workbees. .
- 3. Communications** - an orientation to the garden will be held May 4, repeated May 5, in the garden - new and returning gardeners are welcome to attend.
The garden coordinator will send periodic emails to gardeners about garden work bees, events or issues. Information may also be posted on or in the garden shed. Gardeners can also contact the coordinator at remai.garden@nutana.ca

4. Plot maintenance

- a. **NCA** gardens are committed to organic garden practices. **Do not use any synthetic pesticide (insecticide, fungicide, herbicides, etc.)**. The garden is much like a public park - pesticides may put people & pets at risk and cannot be applied to the land without permission.
- b. **Planting date** - plots must be planted by the first Saturday of June. Plots not planted by this date will be reassigned by the garden coordinator.
- c. **Cultivation** - gardening tools are available in the garden shed. The combination to the lock on the shed will be provided at orientation or the first garden work bee.
- d. **Watering** - water is sourced from the fire department, coordinated by a garden volunteer. Gardeners carry water from the tanks using watering cans available in the shed. Mulch plots and use best watering practices. Report any water issues to the garden coordinator.
- e. **Compost** - delivery of compost from the City is coordinated by garden volunteers at the beginning of the season. Move compost from the pile to your plot as desired - wheelbarrows are available in the shed. At your discretion, augment your soil with your own vermicompost, manures or other organics - or apply synthetic fertilizers.
- f. **Weeding plots and paths** Each gardener is responsible for keeping their plot and surrounding pathways free of weeds. Weeds with seeds are to be bagged and put into garbage stream - the garden does not maintain a public garbage bin - bag garbage and take it home. Weeds without seeds and other plant materials can be put in to one of the garden's 3 black city compost containers in the parking lot.
- g. **Pests and disease** - early removal of pests and diseased plants can minimize spread through your plot and the whole garden. We have been free of **potato beetles** for 3 years now, and the ban on planting potatoes is lifted for 2019. Please check your potato plants and manually remove beetles, larvae or eggs. **Gophers** were digging in a few plots and under the shed in 2018. Please notify the coordinator if you see evidence of gophers or potato beetles in the garden.
- h. **Absences** if you will be away during the growing season, make arrangements for someone else to care for your plot and or harvest ripened produce. Get to know your garden neighbours - we can be a great help to each other.

- i. **Inability to Garden & Abandoned plots** if you are no longer able to maintain your plot, contact the garden coordinator to discuss arrangements. A weedy or unkempt plot will be identified as abandoned and the coordinator will attempt to contact the registered member. If improvements or arrangements are not made within an acceptable time, the plot will be reassigned.
- j. **Garden boundaries** must not be changed
- k. **Raised beds** may not be higher than 6 inches.
- l. **Planting Practice** Respect for fellow gardeners is extremely important in any community garden. Tall plants should only be planted in the center of your plot minimizing shade to your neighbour's plot. Harvest only from your own plot. If you are unable to harvest your produce, arrange for someone else to do the harvest.
- m. **Winter preparation** Plots must be fully cleaned out at the end of the season -typically by early October. Exceptions are winter plantings and perennials.

Summary

The well-being of the community garden is our shared responsibility. We look forward to a great season of growth, learning, and community with you!

Important dates

Thursday, April 18 registration deadline for returning gardeners
 Saturday, April 20 registration opens for new gardeners
 Saturday April 27 work bee to plant sweet peas along 12th St fence - TENTATIVE DATE
 Saturday May 4 work bee to spread wood chips on the paths - TENTATIVE DATE
 Saturday May 4 at 1 p.m., repeated Sunday May 5 at 1 p.m. Orientation for new gardeners
 Saturday May 11 work bee to maintain raspberry patch - TENTATIVE DATE
 Saturday June 1 deadline for planting your plot
 Saturday June 8 work bee to repaint the garden shed - TENTATIVE DATE
 Sunday June 2 reassignment of unplanted plots
 Sunday October 6 final garden closing day- weather dependent

Work bee dates will be rescheduled as needed - depending on weather and availability of gardeners
