

# Westbury Community Garden Rules

These rules have been developed in the interests of garden health, gardener safety, and the WCG mission. They are a part of the Gardener's Agreement and are subject to change by the Garden Board of Directors during the membership year. All gardeners agree to abide by these rules when signing their Gardener's Agreement.

## Garden Plants and Harvesting

The Garden allotment plots/beds have been designed for growing **food crops**, primarily. Gardeners may plant what they want in the bed assigned to them as long as it does not negatively affect other beds.

I understand that:

- a. Tall plants and small shrubs that attract beneficial insects can be grown as long as they are pruned to keep from shading other beds and encroaching upon aisles.
- b. Flowers and herbs are fine if they do not excessively spread seeds to other beds. **Sunflowers are not allowed, and cosmos are discouraged.**
- c. Plants that are illegal or invasive or have spreading roots, such as mint and blackberries, are not allowed in allotment beds. **All varieties of amaranth are prohibited because easily reseed themselves and have proven to easily get out of control, affecting neighboring beds.**
- d. Trees are not allowed in allotment beds.
- e. The following plants must be removed from beds before they form seeds, berries or flowers: Malabar spinach, Comfrey, and Lambs Quarter.
- f. WCG offers bulk vegetable seeds for purchase twice a year.
- g. I must get permission to pick another gardener's crops for a specific period of time.

## Garden Cleanliness and Watering

- a. I will remove weeds, diseased plants, and plants that are no longer productive from my bed. I will also keep my bed free of trash and litter. If garden management notifies me of one of the aforementioned conditions, and I will correct the problem within 10 days in person or by requesting assistance.
- b. I will keep unused cages, trellises, and stakes out of the aisles. If garden management notifies me of one of the afore-mentioned conditions (a,b), and I will **correct the problem within 10 days in person or by requesting assistance.**
- c. After watering, I agree to turn off faucet and remove my water key. I will not allow water to run in the aisles.
- d. If, in the future, I relinquish my Garden membership, for any reason, I will promptly return my watering key(s) to Chair of Site Management or Board of Directors member.

## **Disposal of Plant Material and Trash**

**COMPOST BINS:** I will place only approved vegetable, fruit, herbs, and leaves in designated bin and cover them with dried tree leaves. I will refer to informative signs posted at bins and refrain from depositing dog droppings or other non-plant materials in the bins.

**DUMPSTER:** I will place **weeds, diseased or insect infected plants** (such as tomato, squash, brassicas, etc.) or **woody-stemmed plants** that compost slowly (such as corn stalks, okra, eggplant, sunflower stems) and trash into the dumpster.

**TRASH CANS:** I will use trashcans for only non-plant trash: cans, bottles, cups, paper, etc. Westbury Community Garden is an organic, no-till garden. I will use only approved organic fertilizers and approved organic pesticides. If in doubt, I will consult with Site Maintenance Chair or a member of the Board of Directors before using any product. (List of contact info is attached.)

The Garden makes organic fertilizer available to gardeners at no additional cost. I understand that motorized tilling is not allowed in the allotment beds.

## **Westbury Community Garden is a natural environment.**

- a. I am personally responsible for my actions in the garden. I will be responsible for the supervision and safety of any children, guests or pets I bring to the Garden.
- b. If I bring a dog to the garden, I will keep it leashed and with me at all times. I will not allow my dog to walk in any of the beds and will “scoop poop” (remove any solid waste) my dog produces.
- c. I understand that there is a risk of bee stings, insect bites and contact with irritating vegetation, as well as other injuries/exposures incidental to gardening.
- d. I will wear shoes suitable for walking on uneven or wet surfaces and which will protect my feet from garden hazards.
- e. **I understand that no alcohol, drugs, or firearms are allowed on garden property.**

## **Garden Tools and Materials**

**All materials and tools on the garden site are the property of the Westbury Community Garden** and are not to be taken off site or used for other purposes without approval by the garden officers.

- a. Tools used for approved projects offsite need to be logged out on log sheet provided in the shed and logged in upon their return.
- b. Bulk materials such as mulch, compost, soil, etc., are at times purchased by the Westbury Community Garden for specific projects. I will use these materials only for the specific purpose of the purchase.