

Westbank Community Garden
Garden Agreement
April 2017

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Email _____ Library Card # _____

Phone # _____

A deposit of \$100 is required at the time of plot assignment. There is no longer an annual fee. The deposit will be returned when the gardener decides to not continue with his/her plot rental and then removes all plant material from the plot.

Garden rights may be terminated for failure to pay rental fee, failure to maintain garden plot, or repeated violation of any of the below rules.

Under the honor system, every gardener is expected to volunteer 10 service hours per rental year towards general maintenance, communal garden projects or other tasks.

I have read and agree to the Community Garden rules and I understand that failure to meet the guidelines will result in loss of gardening privileges. I understand that I am gardening at my own risk.

Participant's Name

Participant's Signature

_____ Date

Garden Coordinator signature

For Coordinator use only

Start date _____

Deposit paid _____

Plot # _____

The Westbank Community Garden (the Garden) is an entity of the Westbank Community Library District (the Library).

GENERAL RULES

1. Full individual garden plots are 8'x8'. The Garden is organic. Artificial herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, and chemical fertilizers are not permitted. Organic fertilizers and amendments are acceptable.
2. Individual gardeners must be library members in good standing.
3. Gardeners are responsible for the overall maintenance and appearance of their own plot and communally for the maintenance of the garden as a whole. Gardeners may arrange for other gardeners to temporarily water, weed or harvest their plot.
4. A single plot requires a \$100 deposit. Deposits are to be paid for when the plot is assigned. Deposits can be paid by check to Westbank Community Garden or by credit card. For gardeners who started gardening under the annual fee model, the \$25 deposit they paid will be the amount they are given back.
5. If you anticipate an extended period of time with garden inactivity, you must discuss this with the garden coordinator ahead of time. If a gardener needs to go on hiatus but still wants to keep his/her plot, the plot will either need (1) to be planted with a nitrogen-fixing cover crop such as vetch or clover or (2) to have all vegetation removed and the plot secured by a tarp to reduce growth of weeds or (3) another gardener to "sublet" the plot and take over responsibility.
6. If a gardener decides to leave the garden, s/he is responsible for clearing the plot of all plant material and removing all personal items within 14 days of notification to the coordinator or else the deposit is forfeited. Only after the plot is completely cleared will the deposit be returned.
7. Gardeners may grow plants up the fence, so long as the plants do not over grow horizontally beyond the plot boundary and the vines are cleared when the garden plot is vacated.
8. Keeping the grass trimmed, edging and weeding are the responsibility of the gardeners. A cordless weedwacker is kept in the shed for all to use. Please wear long pants and eye protection when weedwacking.
9. Weeds should be either (1) bagged in the paper yard bags kept in the shed and then either taken home if your neighborhood has yard trimming pickup, or left in the garden for another gardener or Alex to take home for pickup OR (2) bagged and thrown away in the library dumpster. Please do not add weeds to the compost bins.
10. Any tools in the communal areas of the shed are for use by gardeners. Please return tools to the shed dry and clean after use. Each gardener is assigned a shed bin for storing personal items.
11. Each gardener is required to work at least ten (10) service hours per year doing communal tasks outside of his/her plot maintenance (edging grass, tidying shed, helping organize social events, turning compost, special projects, contributing newsletter articles, etc.) In keeping with

the spirit of a community garden, regular participation, enthusiasm, and sharing of knowledge is encouraged in order for the garden to thrive.

12. Gardeners are free to work on their plots at any time of any day, regardless of whether the library is open. The garden gates and tool shed will remain locked and all renters will be given an access code (the same code for both gates and the shed) by the garden coordinator. The Garden has no exterior lighting and gardeners choose to work at their own risk.

13. In case of damage sustained to the garden infrastructure, gardener may be held responsible for cost of the repair.

14. Garden rights may be terminated for failure to maintain garden plot or repeated violation of any of these rules. The decision to terminate is made by the Garden Coordinator and Garden Liaison, following a written warning.

15. The coordinator maintains a list of current gardeners who would like to switch plots. These gardeners, assuming good standing (primarily a history of adequately maintaining plot) have right-of-first-refusal for newly vacated plots, in order of the seniority of their request.

16. The Garden Coordinator and Liaison together reserve the right to modify this agreement at any time. If there is a change, an email will be sent of the changes.

17. Gardeners MAY NOT park in the staff parking lot during weekday library hours, including the hour before opening. Gardeners MAY park in the staff lot on weekdays within the two hours before closing 5-7pm Monday-Thursday, and all day during the weekend. Gardeners MAY ALWAYS park in the two spots in the grass adjacent to the garden, in the visitors lot, or on neighboring streets such as Moon River Dr.

18. We are planning on installing a beehive in May 2017, behind the tall wooden gate at the far end of the garden. Roger Grape, a trained beekeeper, will be the main contact for the beehive, and Alex Meyers will be the back-up beekeeper.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Alex Meyers is the Library's Garden Coordinator. For non-urgent matters, contact her at alex@westbanklibrary.com. For urgent matters, contact her via her cell number. (Listed in shed.)
- The Garden Coordinator will communicate with all gardeners via (1) a monthly newsletter that will be emailed to gardeners and posted on the library's website and (2) emails sent to the gardeners' listserv: friends@westbankgarden.org. This email group is the best way for gardeners to communicate with each other, as well.
- We have been holding Garden Get-Together potlucks twice a year on a weekend afternoon.
- The Garden Liaison is a current gardener who assists the Coordinator.
- It is up to each gardener to ensure that the Coordinator has his/her correct email address, mailing address, and phone number.

**end