



Tonaquint Water-wise Community Garden Guidelines & Policies

Definitions:

Gardener: A participant using a 12x18 plot.

Horticulturist: The full-time horticulturist at The Garden.

Plot: An individual plot is sized 12x18 or senior friendly size is 5x18.

WCWCD: Washington County Water Conservancy District is the administrating agency.

Other agency participants are City of St. George, USU Extension and Healthy Dixie.

Entire Garden Area

1. Horticulturist will oversee daily garden operation.
2. Garden plot areas are available to residents of Washington County, Utah
3. Garden hours will coincide with City of St. George regular park hours, which are generally sunrise to sunset.
4. The Garden will have two different type of plots:
 - a. Master planned area will benefit the community. All harvested produce will be donated to local food bank(s).
 - b. Individual plots are for Gardeners to use as per these guidelines.

Master Garden Area Guidelines:

1. Volunteers overseen by the Horticulturist will maintain this area of the garden.
 - a. Horticulturist will direct volunteers of tasks to be completed.
2. For rental fees, renters may volunteer in the Master Garden Area and the hours worked can satisfy the required rental fee for individual plots.

3. Community tools will be provided to volunteers and will be stored in the designated area in the community tool shed.

Fees and plots

Fees

- Gardener can officially garden at “The Peoples Garden” after reading and paying the deposit, the participant agrees to follow these guidelines. If a past gardener wishes to retain a plot, the \$40.00 garden deposit must be in place.
- The deposit must be paid by March 1st. This deposit is refundable at the end of the gardening season upon cleanup of individual plot satisfactory to the horticulturist and return of access key. On the other hand, if Gardener is interested in retaining individual plot for next season, deposit may remain in WCWCD’s account.
- The annual rental fee for a garden plot is \$30.00, payable to WCWCD no later than May 1st. Gardener will only be granted a plot when Gardener has paid the fee or agreed to and completes volunteer sufficient hours in the Master Garden Area. Annual rental fee includes one-season use of plot, community tools and use of water. This fee is non-refundable.
- Gardener is responsible for all improvements to the plot including but not limited to the following:
 - Plot irrigation system
 - Soil amendments
 - Seeds/plant material
- Water will be provided by City of St. George via a spigot at each plot.
- In lieu of rental fee, Gardeners may volunteer 2 hours a month per plot in the Master Garden area from March 1 through September 30. Volunteer hours will be tracked and verified by Horticulturist. If volunteer hours are not completed as required and committed, the opportunity to pay annual fee with volunteer hours will be lost. A calculation of hours worked will be used to determine remaining fee owed.
- Community tools will be provided and stored in a shed on the premise.

Choosing a Plot

- Plots are assigned on a first come/first serve basis. Gardeners who have previously gardened, and wish to continue are given preference. Garden plots are assigned to one person only and are not transferable. Gardeners may authorize others to garden at Gardener’s assigned site, but the responsibility for the payment of fees, cleanup and fulfillment of all other obligations set forth herein and duties at the site will be the responsibility of the Gardener whose name is assigned to the plot.
- Plot requests are filled according to the order in which the registration forms arrives, whether by mail or personal delivery to 533 E Waterworks Drive; St. George UT 84770. Cash, check or money order for deposit and rental fee must be included in the application form. If requests cannot be filled, the fee and deposit will be refunded.
- Gardener will have right of first refusal to “Gardener’s” plot for the following season, subject to timely fulfillment of requirements set forth herein. As an established participant in good standing, Gardener will have first choice of any unassigned plots for the following season. Plot selection disputes will be settled by seniority first, then randomly by name-draw.

- Gardener's plot is not transferable. Gardener may not assign his or her designated plot to another person.

Start of Season

"Plant by" Rules

- Gardener will have something planted in the garden by May 1 and keep it planted and weeded all season long until November 30th. Gardener will call (435) 673-3617 and notify the WCWCD immediately in the event Gardener elects to cease participation in the Peoples Garden. Failure to do so will disqualify the Gardener from future participation.
- If the kind of plants intended to be grown in the plot must be planted later, the plot must be weeded to keep it weed-free until planting. Gardener is responsible to keep the plot free of weeds and harvested through end of season of November 30th.
- Plot must be cleaned up at the end of the season by removing dead plants and temporary supports. Plots that are unattended by the planting deadline are assumed abandoned and will be forfeited. These plots will be reassigned and the deposit forfeited.

Plot Maintenance Requirements

- Gardener must maintain individual plot (including adjacent aisles) throughout the growing season. Plot must be maintained on a regular basis; keeping weeds down, and maintaining the areas immediately surrounding the plot.
- Gardener is required to use pesticides/herbicides/fertilizers etc. in a manner so as not to allow any cross contamination to other plots. All such chemicals must be applied manually without the use of the water spigot.
- Gardener who does not maintain individual plot will not be eligible for a plot the following year and is subject to forfeiture of deposit.
- If, for any reason (health, vacation, employment pressure), Gardener will be temporarily unable to maintain individual plot, someone must be assigned to take care of the plot and Gardener must inform the Horticulturist or call (435) 673-3617.
- Gardener must contact the Horticulturist if moving, taking an extended vacation, or otherwise unable to maintain the plot throughout the summer. Gardener understands that if plot is abandoned for more than 2 weeks, without having given prior notice to the Horticulturist, Gardener's plot will be considered abandoned and re-assigned and deposit will be forfeited.
- Irrigation system will be shut off between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. to prevent flooding.
- Be respectful to neighbor plots. Tall crops (such as sunflowers and corn), should be planted to not shade another garden.
- Plant growth and gardening activities must be contained in plot area. Any plant that protrudes into the next plot or walkway must be trimmed backed to plot area.
- Plots are only for annuals and non woody perennial plants.
- If using a hose, a shut-off nozzle is required in order to conserve water and maintain sufficient water pressure for other gardeners.
- Mulch is required to conserve water and keep pests and weeds down; wood chips, shredded bark, grass clippings or straw are recommended.

Unclaimed or Neglected Plots

- June 10th is the day new gardeners can be assigned unused plots.
- Gardener understands if plot becomes unkempt, Gardener will be given two weeks' notice by phone and/or mail to clean up the plot. If Gardener takes no action, the plot will be tilled in and re-assigned. Any harvested produce will be donated to the local food bank. The deposit is forfeited to pay for cleanup.

End of Season

- Garden cleanup must be accomplished by November 30th. Failure to do so by this date will result in forfeiture of deposit.
- Clean up means plot is free of plant material, debris, temporary supports, level and ready for tilling.
- Gardeners must clear annual vegetation by November 30th. Cover crops can be left on plots with permission of Horticulturist.

District's Address:

533 E. Waterworks Drive
St. George UT 84770
(435) 673-3617

MAKE CHECKS OUT TO: WCWCD

Julie Breckenridge's Information

jbreckenridge@utah.gov
(435) 668-5289

Casey Jones' Information

fishertree@live.com
(435) 773-1918