



**WELCOME**  
**TO THE NORTH EAST BURNABY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**  
**NEBCA Organic Community Garden**  
**GENERAL INFORMATION 2018**

We are a gardening cooperative committed to the practice of organic gardening. As a member you are responsible for the care of your garden plot, as well as contributing to the overall care of the community garden by participating in work bees and completing assigned tasks. By working together we can ensure that this beautiful garden will bring pleasure to future gardeners as well as inspire future generations of gardeners. Please read the following and familiarize yourself with the important dates and general practices. Happy Gardening!

**GENERAL CONTACT: [nebcagarden@gmail.com](mailto:nebcagarden@gmail.com).**

Communication is conducted via email. Please contact us with any questions or concerns. It is your responsibility to make sure we have your current email address so that you don't miss important notices.

### **FACEBOOK**

is a great way to get notices of important dates and to communicate with your fellow gardeners. Please join our group [www.facebook.com/groups/NEBCAcommunityorganicgarden](https://www.facebook.com/groups/NEBCAcommunityorganicgarden)

### **EMERGENCIES**

Please contact 911 with any real emergency that involves fire, property destruction or life threatening situations.

### **THE 2018 ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM**

Heather Blakemore: Chair / Communication ([nebcagarden@gmail.com](mailto:nebcagarden@gmail.com))

Ingrid Hoff: Co-Chair / Liaison ([nebcagarden.ingrid@gmail.com](mailto:nebcagarden.ingrid@gmail.com))

Lisa Apfelbaum: Membership Coordinator ([nebcagarden.lisa@gmail.com](mailto:nebcagarden.lisa@gmail.com))

Jason Jones: Registration Coordinator ([menaci.jones@gmail.com](mailto:menaci.jones@gmail.com))

Jamie Berkinshaw: Garden Supervisor ([jamieb@telus.net](mailto:jamieb@telus.net))

Mylene Fortier: Treasurer ([mymyfortier@gmail.com](mailto:mymyfortier@gmail.com))

Members at Large: Larissa Rudyak, Nicole Veronneau, Yves Emond

## What is a Community Garden

A community garden is a shared green space that is maintained collectively by its members for their use and enjoyment. Gardeners grow food, herbs and flowers, share knowledge with each other and the community and enhance the quality of urban life.



## Community Gardens

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- \*Provide you with the opportunity to grow your own organic produce
- \*Improve the quality of life for people in and around the garden
- \*Stimulate social interaction
- \*Beautify the neighbourhood
- \*Create opportunities for recreation, exercise and education
- \*Preserves green space
- \*Provides opportunities for intergenerational and cross-cultural connections

## Members Benefits

You will be provided with your own plot of rich soil in which to grow your own food. You may plant your plot as you wish, provided that is within the parameters of the **Rules and Regulations**.

You will have full access to the shed and the tools therein, provided you return tools to the shed after use and do not take them home.

You will be provided with soil, compost and manure free of charge at the beginning of the season. Later in the season you may order straw mulch, also free of charge. Special soil amendments, such as sea soil or other organic amendments are too expensive to provide to all the members, so if you want those products, you will have to purchase them.

You have access to the shared plots, such as the herb garden.

You will be entitled to a discount of 20% at GardenWorks. Please request the account number if you are interested.

## Herb, Flower and Berry Plots

Members may help themselves to any of the herbs in the herb garden, but please avoid taking flowers from the perennial garden.

Several members have planted berry bushes at the eastern end of the garden. Please label your bushes with rainproof tags, so we know who they belong to. Otherwise other gardeners may mistake them as available for harvesting.

## **Plots and Fees**

Plot fees for 2018 are \$35 per plot for all plot types.

**Members who are renewing plots must pay online by March 11. New members added from our waitlist after that date, have until April 2 to register and pay for their plots.**

New members from our Waitlist will be given priority on plots that become available after the 2018 registration. The waitlist will be entirely cleared before making any existing plots available to current members.

New members are entitled to one plot their first year. If they maintain their plot and fulfill their community hours and work bee obligations, they can apply for an additional plot once the waitlist has been cleared.

Members may request to exchange their plots for other available plots during registration, but may not increase the number of their plots until new members have had an opportunity to acquire one plot.

Those members who have in excess of 4 plots, have been grandfathered into the current policy. If these plots are given up for any reason, they will then be split up and return to the general inventory in order to be distributed to new members.

## **Soil and Compost**

In a typical season we have two deliveries of soil and compost. Members are allowed to take one wheelbarrow full of each per plot, to maintain the health and level of soil in your garden. Once everyone has had a chance to take their share, members will be notified if there is extra.

## **Co-Gardening**

Members may have 1 registered co-gardener with whom they share their plot. The co-gardener will have the combination to the shed and can work in the garden alone. Co-gardeners must be identified at registration and their contact information provided.

Subletting your plot is not allowed. A member who is found to be subletting their plot will forfeit their plot and their membership, as well as their current plot fee immediately.

You are encouraged to appoint a co-gardener if you foresee a problem with fulfilling your membership obligations. Having a co-gardener who will take over your task assignment or work bee commitment, may prevent you having to forfeit your plot.

Co-gardeners **do not inherit the garden plot** if a member leaves. The co-gardener must have been a member in good standing for a minimum of one year, and to have shown themselves to be a responsible gardener who participates in group tasks. Otherwise, they will go on the waitlist.

## General Maintenance Tasks

Each gardener is expected to contribute a minimum of 5 hours of work per season. This includes one 2.5 hour work bee and another 2.5 hours on the assigned tasks laid out in the registration form.

Task Coordinators will be in touch with members who have signed up for tasks and explain your responsibilities to you, as well as monitor task assignments and report to the Administration Team, throughout the season.

## Benefits of Mulching

Mulch not only beautifies planting beds with an attractive layer of material over bare soil, it also has several positive benefits: adding nutrients to the soil, making garden maintenance easier while improving the health of your plants, protecting your plants from extreme heat and helping the soil retain water. Organic mulching materials, like straw, wood chips, leaves and grass clippings, offer the greatest benefits.

We will notify members when we plan to place an order for straw mulch, so that you can indicate whether you would like to be included in the order. We will only order enough for those gardeners who have indicated they want some.

## Preventing Theft in the Garden

Unfortunately All community gardens seem to suffer from a certain amount of theft. We'd love to hear any ideas you might have for preventing theft in our garden. Here are some of the most popular ideas from other garden sites

*The best way to prevent theft in the garden is by knowing your neighbours. Introduce yourself to your fellow gardeners.*

*Greet and question unfamiliar visitors. Would-be thieves hate a place where people talk to them. Ask if they are interested in joining the garden, or have an interest in community gardens.*

*Consider growing varieties that are not as easily recognizable. For example green or yellow tomatoes may look like they have not yet ripened and deter the grab and run thief.*

*Don't delay harvesting. Check your garden regularly and take plants home as soon as they are ripe.*

## IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

A detailed document **RULES and RESPONSIBILITIES** has been sent to you separately. Please read this document carefully.

**Failure to comply with NEBCA Organic Community Garden rules, may result in loss of membership.**

You will be asked to agree to these conditions of membership upon registration. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Administration Team at [nebcagarden@gmail.com](mailto:nebcagarden@gmail.com)



