

Maple Community Garden MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINES & CONTRACT - 2006

1. **PHILOSOPHY** - Maple Community Garden has as its principal objectives the development of a spirit of cooperation among its members and the promotion of organic gardening methods.
2. **MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINES:**
 - a) one plot only per member;
 - b) one plot corresponds to one vote in person at a General Meeting;
 - c) contract runs year to year, subject to both the member's and the Membership Committee's satisfaction that conditions of contract are being fulfilled reasonably; all members must fill out and sign the short application/contract form each year;
 - d) payment of membership fee must accompany signed renewal applications and both are required by March 15 of each year, or plot may be reassigned; receipt of an application and fee does not guarantee a garden plot;
 - e) plot size is approx 3 ft. by 12 ft. with a 2 ft. pathway at south end of plot inside fence, a city allowance of 5 ft. at the street side, & composters flush against the north fence;
 - f) pathway between plots to be agreed upon by neighbouring gardeners;
 - g) members living outside of the Kits area remain subject to all requirements for plot maintenance and Work Party / General Meeting attendance;
 - h) for new applications / memberships preference will be given to Kitsilano residents.
3. **CONTRACT: As a Maple Community Garden Member, I AGREE TO:**
 - a) use only organic gardening practices (i.e. compost, composted animal manures, bonemeal); NO chemical fertilizers, pesticides or herbicides; use closed, rodent-proof compost containers;
 - b) maintain my plot & plantings on a regular basis inside & outside the north & south fence, harvesting mature crops and removing dead plants so as to discourage disease;
 - c) promptly dispose of weeds, diseased and invasive plants away from the garden area;
 - d) have winter/spring weed growth removed by April 1st, dig, prepare for planting by May 15th;
 - e) maintain paths & other common areas around my plot, including regular clipping of grass inside & outside the north & south fence, but leaving tansy to grow wherever possible outside the fence;
 - f) use water system correctly and conservatively, take care not to spray neighbour gardens; use only manual (person-powered) garden & construction equipment;
 - g) supply my own clipper & trowel, and clean & hang up tools in the tool cupboard after use;
 - h) attend at least 1 General Meeting and participate in at least 3 Work Parties per year out of a total of 2 General Mtgs (spring & fall) and 6 Work Parties (Mar/Apr, May, June, July, Sept & Oct.) held each year. If I am unable to attend, I am allowed only 1 Work Party replacement per year. The onus is on me to make arrangements by July 31 with Membership Coordinator, Marg Haga @ 731-1236, to do approx. 2 hours extra communal work for my absence from a Work Party.
 - i) keep myself informed of garden information by checking the Notice Board by the flower garden regularly for Minutes, Newsletters and other information. I understand that it is my responsibility to find out the specific dates of General Meetings and Work Parties;
 - j) contribute actively to foster a spirit of cooperation in the garden.

4. **RENEWAL FORM** - (For Renewing Members Only)

Name: _____ Section #: _____

Attached is my Membership Fee of \$ 10.00 payable to the Maple Community Garden.

(Fee must be received by Treasurer at the spring General Meeting or no later than March 15, otherwise the plot may be reassigned.) The Membership fee is non-refundable.

I understand that my garden plot may be reassigned if it is not worked and prepared for planting by June 1, or if I do not maintain it regularly, or if I do not attend at least 1 General Meeting and participate in at least 3 Work Parties this year.

I agree that I (or my visitors or agents) will not use any motorized garden/construction equipment in or around the Maple Community Gardens.

I agree that none of the Society Promoting Environmental Conservation, the Maple Community Garden, the City of Vancouver, nor the City Farmer will bear any responsibility for any injuries incurred by me, my visitors or my agents in or around Maple Community Gardens.

I have read and understand the entire Membership Guidelines & Contract (parts 1-4 above), and agree to follow them as a member of the Maple Community Garden.

PLEASE COMPLETE ALL BLANKS BELOW: – (For Executive & Section Rep Use Only)

Name: _____ Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone: (home) _____ (work) _____

Date: _____, 2006 Signature: _____

Email: _____

Sample contract provided by Cathy Gole from Maple Community Gardens