

## The Pender Harbour Community Garden

### Sponsored by the Pender Harbour & District Health Centre Society

Gardening in public plots is not like gardening in your own back yard. How you care for your garden plot impacts other people. The Pender Harbour & District Health Center Society (PHHC) has created Community Garden policies, guidelines and rules to facilitate community health, safety and enjoyment.

**POLICY:** It is PHHC's policy to nurture a safe, vibrant ecofriendly Community Garden. Plots are for growing edible crops for gardeners and their family and friends, with extra produce to be donated to the local food bank.

Community gardening improves users' health by increasing fresh vegetable consumption and providing a venue for exercise. It encourages a social community by bringing people together. It brings gardeners close to their food source and facilitates sharing of food production knowledge.

**GUIDELINES:** The sponsoring organization, PHHC, reviews and updates Community Garden policies, guidelines and rules on a yearly basis. PHHC appoints a garden manager to assist in managing the Community Garden. Gardeners are notified of annual meetings and important information by phone or email. Gardeners are encouraged to attend annual meetings to discuss current and future activities in the garden.

The annual growing season will be May 1 to October 31. Outside of the growing season, the Community Garden will lay dormant. Garden plots are assigned on a first come, first serve basis. A waiting list is maintained for those whom no plot was available. Plots that are abandoned for 3 weeks will be reassigned to a gardener on the waitlist. Plots are for growing edible plants, and not for growing commercial crops, including plants used for illegal purposes. There is a \$10.00 fee for permission to garden in a designated area with a maximum of two plots per person. This fee is payable at the beginning of each season. Garden plots are not transferrable.

Gardeners are responsible for maintaining, caring for and cleaning up their plot during and at the end of the growing season. All activities in the Community Garden, including the use of tools, are done at the gardener's own risk. Gardeners must sign a waiver before being allocated a plot. Children and pets are welcome in the gardener's plot if supervised. Gardeners are responsible for the safety and conduct of themselves, their fellow gardeners, guests and pets. Water saving techniques such as mulching, direct plant root watering and avoiding mid-day and overhead watering are encouraged. Sunshine Coast Regional District watering conservation standards will be adhered to and will be monitored. Trash cans and a compost area are clearly defined for gardener use. Hoses and watering cans are provided.

## RULES

1. **Tools:** Gardeners must bring their own tools. Storage of tools is not allowed.
2. **Children & Pets:** Children & pets must be supervised by an adult. Dogs must be leashed.
3. **Parking:** Gardener parking is restricted to the road adjacent to the Community Garden.
4. **Hours:** The Community Garden is open from dawn to dusk seven days per week from May 1 to October 31. It is closed from the public at all other times.
5. **Use & Maintenance:** Gardeners must plant and water their plots during the growing season. They must keep adjacent areas and pathways clear around their plots.
6. **Year End:** Gardeners must remove all plant and staking materials by October 31.
7. **Banned Materials:** Chemical insecticides, fungicides and bactericides are prohibited.
8. **Plant Types:** Plants must produce edible crops and must not exceed 4 feet tall.
9. **Problems:** Gardeners must report problems or concerns to the garden manager.
10. **Contact Information:** Gardeners must provide a current phone number or email address to the garden manager and keep it up to date at all times.

To Contact Garden Manager: KYM HARRIS Ph: 604 251-7488 Email:  
kymharris.102@gmail.com

To Contact Pender Harbour Health Centre: Ph: 604 883-2764