



## Guidelines & Rules at Heritage Community Garden and Park

The Williamson County and Cities Health District (WCCHD), in partnership with the City of Georgetown Parks and Recreation Department, are developing the Heritage Community Gardens at 2100 Hutto Road in Georgetown. The Heritage Community Gardens will feature 38 raised garden plots, nature exploration trails, an education center and a Children's garden which includes specialty theme gardens. This garden is being designed as a hands-on learning and exploration center to teach children and their families how to garden, prepare healthy meals, and discover nature. Some guidelines have been established to assure that we best utilize the land provided by the City of Georgetown to develop an opportunity for physical activity, access to fresh fruits and vegetables, social interaction, neighborhood beautification, and community service.

### Guidelines:

- There are 38 garden plots and a one acre production in-ground garden at Heritage Community Gardens.
- There is a variety of garden plot sizes. This is to accommodate a variety of gardeners such as but not limited to children, beginner gardeners, individuals, youth groups, large & small families, and experienced gardeners. If interested in changing the size of a garden plot contact WCCHD for approval.
- Most of the garden plots are 2 cinder blocks high with a few being 3 cinder blocks high. These plots (3 bricks high) are suggested for individuals in a wheel chair or with other physical disabilities.
- To involve more community members at the gardens, an individual gardener can adopt no more than two garden plots.
- A waiting list will be established when all garden plots have been adopted. However current gardeners with two plots will be asked to give up a plot to allow a new gardener in.
- 90% of each garden bed must be fruits, vegetables, and herbs.

### Rules:

#### 10% Back

- I have adopted a garden plot with the understanding that I will give at least 10% of the produce back to the community through a local food bank.

## **Plot Maintenance**

- I will actively garden in my HCG plot. I understand that I am responsible for watering, weeding, fertilizing, soil amendments and caring for my plot.
- If I choose to skip a season (i.e. doesn't want to winter garden) I will give up my plot. I will be able to have a new garden plot assigned to me in the spring.
- I am responsible for maintaining the appearance of my garden plot and 2 feet of bordering pathways. This includes cleaning up trash, litter, pulling the weeds, rolling up hoses, removing dead/dying plants and rotting vegetables and putting tools away.
- If my plot becomes un-kept at anytime, I understand I will be given 2 weeks notice to clean it up. If it remains in non-compliance, it will be re-assigned. I understand this is a one time courtesy.
- I will harvest my produce in a timely matter. If I am unable to pick my vegetables, I will notify WCCHD that my plot needs to be harvested and donated to the Caring Place. If the vegetables in my garden bed are un-harvested WCCHD has my permission to harvest and donate them for me unless otherwise communicated (i.e. saving seed).
- I will not pick produce from any other gardener's garden.
- I will record my produce donations in the donation book at the barn.
- If I must give up my plot for any reason, I will notify Williamson County & Cities Health District immediately.
- I will not grow noxious weeds, vegetables, vines or fruit that will interfere with other gardener's enjoyment of their gardening experience.
- I will report any problems, vandalism or damage to WCCHD.

## **Water**

- I will water my garden. I will water responsibly. I will not leave my garden plot unattended while watering. I will report any plumbing damages to WCCHD immediately. When finished watering, I will coil the hose.

## **Organic**

- I understand that Heritage is an organic garden and I will only use organic fertilizers and pesticides. If I am in doubt about a fertilizer, I will check with WCCHD.

## **Tools**

- I am allowed to use the tools stored in the barn only for the purpose for which they were designed. I must clean the tools and return them to their proper place in the barn, close and lock the door. I will report any broken or damaged tools to WCCHD.
- I will store all supplies in the barn/shed.

**Pets**

- No pets of any kind are allowed on Heritage Community Garden premises.

**Children**

- I will encourage my child (ren) to come with me to Heritage Community Garden. I understand that it is my responsibility to keep my children focused on the garden activities. If my child (ren) is disturbing other gardeners I will encourage them to play in the children’s garden.

**Tobacco Products**

- I will NOT have tobacco plants or products on site. I will not smoke and/or chew tobacco on site. Tobacco carries the Mosaic Virus that is easily transmitted to other plants and kills them.

**Illegal Substances**

- I will not consume alcohol or illegal substances on Heritage Community Garden premises.

**Compost Bins**

- I will follow the guidelines provided on what to add to the compost and when I can use it.

**Park and Grounds**

- I will help maintain the grounds by keeping litter picked up.
- If I am the last gardener around, I will lock the gate when I leave.

**Personal Responsibility**

I understand that neither the garden group nor owners of the land are responsible for my actions. I THEREFORE AGREE TO HOLD HARMLESS THE GARDEN GROUP AND OWNERS OF THE LAND FOR ANY LIABILITY, DAMAGE, LOSS OR CLAIM THAT OCCURS IN CONNECTION WITH USE OF THE GARDEN BY ME OR ANY OF MY GUESTS.

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Name

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Signature

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Date