

Handbook

Chille
**COMMUNITY
GARDEN**

www.chillegardens.org



2010

"My green thumb came only as a result of the mistakes I made while learning to see things from the plant's point of view."

H. Fred Ale

Please use this handbook and your own common sense as guidelines for tending your plot and participating in the CCG garden community. Remember to check the information board at the West gate for updated information from your garden managers and board.

- ⇒ Don't waste groceries! Cultivate & plant your plot within two weeks of assignment or lose it without refund. Plots left unattended for more than 14 days at a time will also be reassigned. (Unless of course you win a cruise or find yourself in such magnificent physical condition that you simply must scale Mt. Everest—in that case make arrangements with a fellow gardener or one of the garden managers to attend your plot and all will be well.) Clean your plot for winter by October 31.
- ⇒ The use of insecticides and fertilizers made from synthetic chemical materials is strictly prohibited. Not certain? Either ask a garden manager or find another method of pest control. (Garden managers will not share suggestions for ridding gardeners of pesky visitors at home—your relatives are your problem and now that you're growing nutritious organic groceries—watch out!)
- ⇒ Maintenance activities will be performed by gardeners (four hours per season minimum) and community volunteers. Garden Manager duties do not include regular physical maintenance activities. A task list will be posted via e-mail and on the bulletin board at the garden.
 - If you carried it in please haul it out.
 - Maintain the shared paths adjacent to your plot and don't dig into main paths or leave obstructions in the way of fellow gardeners.

The National Gardening Association website, <http://www.garden.org/home>, offers plant guides and other helpful information for new and experienced gardeners.

- ⇒ Motorized vehicles will be allowed by special permission or as needed by disabled gardeners. Please only drive from the West end of the garden to the East end, you should reach the parking lot again by turning right after you leave the East gate and turning right again at the garden corner. Please do not drive on the rotary walking path!
- ⇒ NO DOGS or OTHER PETS ARE ALLOWED ON GARDEN PROPERTY—do you take Jake the snake with you to the grocery store?
- ⇒ Please, listen to your polkas or preferred entertainment on headphones—hard as it is to believe not all gardeners love the polka.
- ⇒ Be courteous and (again with the polkas and dogs) allow adequate space for vining and spreading crops and keep them confined to your own plot. Don't be the tall dude in the big hat sitting in front of me at the theater—consider the affect your tall crops will have on the view neighboring patches have of the sun! Don't allow plants to encroach into or overhang the paths.
- ⇒ Smoking or using any controlled substance is prohibited.
- ⇒ Please avoid the use of materials that may be offensive to other gardeners or inviting to pests (for instance tire hotels for mosquitoes and treated wood are prohibited.)
- ⇒ Must we say it? Leave guns and other weapons, including racism, offensive language, and prejudice, at home.

At Organic Gardening, <http://www.organicgardening.com/>, you can learn to: have your soil tested; manage pests without chemicals; and read growing guides for vegetables and flowers.

- ⇒ Water with conservation in mind and babysit running water—hoses and sprinklers can suddenly shear or pop apart and your plot become a lake, your neighbor’s plot a bog and our well an empty shaft.
- ⇒ Remember: **ONLY** organic compostable material in the compost area
- ⇒ **PLEASE** care for and help maintain common garden tools and equipment. Use them for the purpose for which they were intended (nippers & rakes are not pry bars) and return tools to proper place.

Local Resources

- ⇒ *Steven’s County Rural Library District, Colville Branch, 195 South Oak, Colville WA 99114, (509)684-6620, <http://librariesofstevenscounty.org/>*
- ⇒ *Master Gardener’s, Wednesdays at the farmer’s market on 3rd street*
- ⇒ *WSU Stevens County Extension Service, 985 S. Elm, Suite A, Colville WA 99114, (509)684-2588*

- ⇒ Children grow like weeds, are tough as nails and are of far more value than any vegetation. Please give them supervision at all times to prevent needless injuries and remember the same gardeners who don’t want polkas or dogs in their patch might feel that way about children too (poor old things.) Children should always be supervised.
- ⇒ The garden is closed from twilight until dawn.