



Marymoor Community Gardeners Association

2017 MEMBERSHIP CONTRACT

Welcome! The Marymoor Community Gardeners Association or “MCGA” is a non-profit gardening organization, operating in Marymoor Park through a concession agreement with King County Parks. MCGA is required by King County Parks System to provide administrative oversight, insurance, and some maintenance of the garden site.

The MCGA is open to the public, for an annual user fee plus a community service commitment. Gardeners agree to follow all King County Park rules, and MCGA rules included in this contract.

In addition to being a gardening resource for our local community, MCGA operates a 4,000+ square feet of garden space to provide produce for Hopelink’s food bank.

MCGA has been operating as an all-volunteer association since 2003. That spirit of volunteerism is what makes us a success today! We look forward to gardening with you.

Please read the following carefully and return the signed agreement page with your application. You need to return the last two pages along with your payment. If you have any questions or comments, please email the MCGA Board of Directors at mcgaboard@gmail.com.

RULES

1. GARDEN USE AND PATH MAINTENANCE

- a. Each full-size garden plot is approximately (10’x40’); half-plots are approximately (10’x 20’).
- b. The annual dues are \$65.00 for (10’x40’) plots and \$32.50 for (10’x20’) plots, water is included in the price.
- c. There is an 8 hour annual community service requirement per full-size plot, and 4 hours for half-size plots.
- d. Garden plots are used for growing vegetables and flowers for the gardener’s own use or for donation to charitable organizations. Growing vegetables and flowers for commercial use is prohibited. Growing trees is prohibited.
- e. During the active garden season (April 1st to October 31st), gardeners must actively grow produce and/or flowers, and keep their plot(s) weeded and maintained.
- f. Gardeners are responsible for tools, tilling, soil amendments, cultivating, weeding, fertilizing, watering, etc.
- g. Gardeners must keep the main pathway in front of their garden clear for King County mowers.
- h. You must contact mcgaboard@gmail.com before building any structure in your plot. Permanent structures are not allowed in plots. Pressure treated wood is not allowed.
- i. Gardens may be cultivated year round (please note: water is turned off from October 15th through April 15th).

2. PLOT ASSIGNMENT AND SURRENDER

- a. Garden registration is open from January 1st to August 31st.
- b. The maximum number of plots that a first-year gardener/family/group may rent is one.
- c. The maximum number of plots a gardener/family/group may rent is four.
- d. The maximum number of plots a gardener/family/group may expand to is one per year starting their second year, and must be in good standing.

- e. The maximum number of plots that make up a single garden is four.
- f. Returning gardeners have first preference to the plots they rented the previous year, **IF their application and payment are received by February 28 and they are in good standing.**
- g. Applications for returning gardeners received after the deadline will be assigned space as available.
- h. Gardeners may not transfer their plot(s) to unregistered parties or other MCGA gardeners.
- i. If you no longer wish to garden, please notify the MCGA Registrar as soon as possible and remove all tools and plants from your garden. If surrendered plot(s) can be “re-rented” during the same season, a full or partial refund may be offered. Please leave your plot better than you found it if at all possible!

3. CULTIVATION

- a. **Cultivation Deadline: May 1st. Plots must be weeded and cleared by May 1st** to ensure the maximum use of limited space. Plots not actively cultivated by this time may be reassigned by the board.
- b. **Row Monitoring:** During the gardening season, row monitors (volunteer gardeners) review plot usage in an effort to help keep plots active.
 - i. When plots become over-grown with weeds for more than two weeks, gardeners are contacted by phone or email by their row monitor. Gardeners have two weeks to tend their plot after notification.
 - ii. If a row manager contacts you about an over-grown plot two times in one year and your plot remains in a similar condition a third time, your plot will return to the rental pool. No refunds will be given.
 - iii. Gardeners may reapply to the garden after a one-year waiting period.
- c. Gardeners must be present in the garden while watering. Automatic water timers are not allowed. Water is to be used only for gardening. Please conserve water as much as possible.
- d. Containers of open-standing water should be covered, because they can be breeding grounds for mosquitoes.
- e. Tires are not allowed.
- f. Plants of an invasive nature (such as bamboo or English ivy or Hops) are not allowed in the ground; they are only allowed in containers. Plants on King County's Noxious Weed List are not allowed anywhere in the garden and must be removed. To learn more about the current list of noxious weeds, please visit <http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/animalsAndPlants/noxious-weeds/laws/list.aspx>. If in doubt, please contact the MCGA board at mcgaboard@gmail.com for assistance.

4. GOOD NEIGHBOR PRACTICES

- a. Gardeners must keep their borders free from weeds, vines, or other materials that may impact the enjoyment of neighboring plots.
- b. Use common courtesy and resolve differences in a neighborly way. For problems with fellow gardeners, stay polite and listen carefully; usually solutions are easily reached. Verbal or physical abuse will not be tolerated. Contact the MCGA Board of Directors for more serious difficulties.
- c. Dogs and other pets are not allowed in the garden.
- d. Loud radios are prohibited.
- e. There is no smoking allowed in the garden.
- f. Tall plants (such as corn, sunflowers, Jerusalem artichoke, or tall trellised plants) that cast extensive shade should be planted where they will not impact adjoining gardens.
- g. Raspberries and other caning berries can easily get out of control. Raspberry rows should be kept within a 10' x 3' area, staked or trellised, with at least a two foot path around the row to keep from encroaching on neighbors' plot.
- h. Closely supervise your children; help them learn respect for gardening and boundaries. Children using tools in the garden must be under direct and constant supervision of a parent or guardian. "Direct" means within talking distance. Children should always be within eyesight of a parent or guardian.
- i. Removal of vegetables, flowers, or garden equipment without the owner's consent, as well as intentional damage to a garden plot, is subject to prosecution in accordance with King County Ordinance 6798:7.12.550.7. Any member witnessing or experiencing garden theft or vandalism should notify police by calling 206-296-3311 to file a report, as well as the Park Office 206-205-3661. Try to get a good description of the perpetrator(s) and a license plate of their car if possible. Due to the open nature of parks and garden sites, King County Parks is not responsible for loss of garden products.
- j. MCGA is an online community too! Please visit <http://marymoorgarden.org> for the latest garden information. We can also be found on Facebook simply by doing a search for marymoorgarden once you login. We also have an active blog at <http://mcgaboard.blogspot.com>. All this and more can be found on our main website.

5. GARDEN SAFE, GARDEN ECO-FRIENDLY.

Our community garden follows stringent eco-friendly practices. Our goal is to have a positive impact on local wildlife and the environment and to follow the rules set out by the King County Parks System. With your help, we will keep the gardens safe for future generations.

- a. Repellants: The use of synthetic chemicals that act as weed killers, pesticides, fungicides, etc. are prohibited (examples include Roundup weed killer and Corry's Slug & Snail Death). However, organic methods for controlling weeds and pests are encouraged (examples include Sluggo and Safer Insecticidal Soap brands).
- b. Fertilizers: The use of synthetic fertilizers in powder form or in pre-packaged potting soils is prohibited (examples include Miracle Grow powder or Miracle Grow potting soil). Organic fertilizers are encouraged (examples include composted manures, as well as plant, animal, and mineral sources of nutrients).
- c. OMRI labeled repellants and fertilizers are eco-friendly.
- d. Raw manure from any animal is prohibited. Manures must be fully composted. No human waste allowed.
- e. Building materials: The use of pressure-treated wood is prohibited! Paint or stain must be safe for vegetable gardening and applied outside of the garden.

If you're unsure whether or not a repellent or fertilizer is appropriate for the garden, look for the OMRI logo on the product labeling. Products with the OMRI logo are safe. (See below).

If you have questions, contact us at mcgaboard@gmail.com



Any gardener found to be in violation of the community garden rules will be asked to leave the garden.

COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS PREFERENCE LIST

Please take a moment to look at the list of community service opportunities available to you this season. All count equally towards your **required 8 hours** per plot. Please remember that it is your responsibility to fulfill your hours; friends and family can help fulfill your hours.

If you have any questions about the community service hours, please contact volunteer coordinator Gia Parsons at 425-650-7030 or giaparsons@hotmail.com. Thank you for your help and cooperation.

Depending on what you chose as a community service hours preference, your name will either be placed on an email group list (food bank worker bee or grounds maintenance), **OR** you might be contacted directly by Gia.

- 1. Food Bank Section Manager** – Be a part of the food bank’s leadership team. Help plan and maintain the Hopelink Gardens, a wonderful addition to the community that feeds needy individuals and families. Duties include organizing and supervising work parties plus contacting gardeners to let them know what needs attention in the food bank garden.
- 2. Food Bank Worker Bee** – Weed and water the food bank gardens during the growing season. Keep paths and work areas clean and tidy. Clean out coolers when necessary. Be on the lookout for work party emails and sign up for work parties. Keep an eye on the white board in the food bank for ‘do-it-yourself’ chores.
- 3. Row Monitor** – Sign up to be a part of the site leadership team. Commitments include overseeing plot rule compliance and plot use. Responsibilities include walking the rows, making notes of individual plots, and contacting gardeners via phone or email regarding their plot(s). Row monitors will work closely with the volunteer coordinator and the president. We require weekly ‘check-in’s’ and/or communication reports (very informal), so we can stay abreast of how things are going in your area. Being a ‘people person’ is a plus!
- 4. Produce Driver** – Commit to deliver harvested produce to Hopelink at least once a week. We need individuals who can lift heavy crates filled with produce as well as collect and return produce receipts to the food bank mailbox. It is very important that produce drivers be extra dependable and reliable; needy families are counting on you!
- 5. Grounds Maintenance Crew** – Help keep the communal parts of the garden mowed, weeded and debris free. There are many ‘do-it-yourself’ tasks for those who are self motivated. This is a great alternative for those who cannot make it to work parties that occur mostly on weekends.
- 6. TLC Committee (Tender Loving Care)** – New this year, a group of interested gardeners will be available to help other gardeners. They will provide TEMPORARY seasonal aid & assistance to MCGA members in good standing that have unforeseen illness, surgery, or family emergencies.
- 7. Worker Bee** – Participate in our group wide work parties which are held 2-3 times a year. You can easily fulfill your volunteer commitment by signing up for 2 work parties a year (4 hours each time). Usually these occur at the beginning and end of the active growing season.

(Please note, in the October elections, you may apply to be a Garden Leader) – Sign up to become part of the leadership team at the garden! Volunteer to be on the board or serve as an officer. Positions include: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Registrar. Time commitments include monthly meetings (the third Wednesday of the month) as well as email correspondences.

Make your choice(s) and sign the community service agreement on page 5, noting your selections.

Please keep these first 4 pages for your records.

Return completed pages 5 and 6 along with your payment.



Marymoor Community Gardeners Association

Please read and sign the following agreements and return this page with your application.

CONDITIONS OF MCGA MEMBERSHIP

I wish to join/rejoin the Marymoor Community Gardeners Association (MCGA).

I agree to the following **Hold Harmless Clause**: (required by King County Parks Department). The undersigned adult on behalf of themselves, their child and/or children, agrees to protect, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless King County and Marymoor Community Garden Association, its officers, officials, employees, and agents from any and all claims, demands, suits, penalties, losses, damages, judgments, or costs of any kind whatsoever arising out of or in any way resulting from the activities of said individual King County Park System Programs except for those acts of commissions which are the sole negligence of the County.

By my signature below, I acknowledge that I have read the rules and understand the conditions of membership in MCGA. I understand that failure to comply will result in non-renewal/non-approval of my application and/or termination of gardening privileges.

COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS AGREEMENT

Contributing time to the maintenance of your association is the hallmark of our garden and allows us to operate. We all need your help to make the MCGA a success!

REQUIRED COMMUNITY HOURS: 8 HOURS FOR EACH FULL SIZE PLOT (10'x40') and 4 HOURS FOR EACH HALF SIZE PLOT (10'x20')

- A. Gardeners are responsible for contributing time to the collective areas of the garden, this does not include time taking care of your own garden.
- B. You must complete & record your hours on the clipboard in the Food bank (or on the MCGA website).
- C. Community hours are to be completed **October 31st**. *Gardeners unable to fulfill their hours automatically have their plots returned to the rental pool on this date.*

To help us match your community service interests with garden tasks, please indicate your preferences below: **Use the Community Service Hours Preference List (page 4) and indicate your choices below (ex: "6. Worker Bee"):**

1st Preference: _____ **2nd Preference:** _____

3rd Preference: _____

I agree to meet the above conditions of MCGA membership. For the _____ plot(s) I am renting, I also agree to contribute _____ hours and to communicate with the volunteer coordinator in a timely manner regarding approved tasks and my hours.

SIGNED _____ **DATE** _____

NAME _____

Marymoor Community Gardeners Association

2017 APPLICATION FOR GARDEN PLOT

Please fill out the following, enclose your payment, this page and signed MCGA agreement (page 5) and mail to:

MARYMOOR COMMUNITY GARDENERS ASSOCIATION
(MCGA) PO BOX 133
REDMOND, WA 98073-0133

Registration questions?
Email Bev MacKenzie at
mcca.registrar@gmail.com

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Evening Phone*: _____

*** Evening phone number and email address are required!**

Email*: _____

Co-Gardener: _____

Co-Gardener email: _____

If you do not speak English, supply a name, phone number and/or email of an English speaking friend/family:

Name: _____ Phone and/or Email*: _____

I WANT TO DO THE FOLLOWING: *New gardeners only: plots are randomly assigned!*

- I'm a NEW gardener and would like one FULL-SIZE plot (new gardeners are limited to one plot their 1st year)
- I'm a NEW gardener and would like one HALF-SIZE plot (new gardeners are limited to one plot their 1st year)
- Keep my current garden plot(s).
- Be assigned an additional plot: _____ (list plot number)
- Be reassigned to a different plot: _____ (list plot)

Paid parking is required and enforced by Marymoor Park. You may purchase a multi-month parking pass directly from King County Parks (through their website or in person by following the signs to the maintenance office at the park). You may also purchase a day pass at the entrance of the park. As of 2017, the MCGA board is no longer purchasing and handing out king county park parking permits.

Each gardener may obtain a gardener identification decal. These will be available at the annual MCGA spring meeting (usually held in March) and at our work parties held throughout the growing season. Please place the decal onto your inner left-front windshield when parking in the garden parking lot. The lot is for gardeners only, and the decal will identify you as a gardener.

FEE CALCULATION SECTION

Note: DO NOT pay for added plots until directed by the registrar to do so!

One half plot -OR- up to four full plots allowed.

You indicated (on page 5) you have _____ plot(s)..
(Half plots are _____ Full plots are _____)

Make checks payable to MCGA or Marymoor Community Gardeners Association for:

PLEASE RETURN PAGES 5 & 6 WITH PAYMENT!



C H E C K L I S T

Don't let your application become held-up (or even worse, unprocessed) due to errors!

Follow this checklist to ensure that your application is complete and correct...

(PAGE 5)

- Did you indicate your community service interests first, second and third preferences, total number of plots (needed to calculate the total amount due), sign and date at the bottom of the page?

(PAGE 6)

- Did you completely fill-out your name, address, phone and/or email?
- Did you completely fill-out your co-gardener's information, if applicable?
- Did you specify whether you're a new or returning gardener and what type of plot(s) you want/have?

**Did you enclose your check payable to
MCGA along with both pages 5 and 6?**

***Returning gardeners only! YOUR APPLICATION AND FEES MUST REACH US BY THE
FEB. 28th DEADLINE or your existing plot(s) will be offered to new gardeners.***

Any questions? Please email us at mca.registrar@gmail.com

Thank you for your interest in Marymoor Community Gardens. Happy gardening!

Sincerely,
Bev MacKenzie
MCGA Registrar