



2021 HALES TRAIL COMMUNITY GARDEN RULES

Hales Trail Community Garden is a community of gardeners, working together in an atmosphere of mutual respect and friendliness so that each gardener can be successful year after year.

GARDEN OWNERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

- i. The garden is owned by the City of Port Washington and managed by the Recreation Department. All gardeners are expected to abide by all city ordinances as they pertain to the City of Port Washington Park and Recreational System and the Ozaukee Interurban Bike Trail. These rules include, but are not limited to, the prohibition of all firearms and consumption of alcoholic beverages while on the premises.
- ii. Plot rental fees, donations, and other revenues shall be paid to Ozaukee Master Gardeners.
- iii. The City of Port Washington is not responsible for lost, stolen or discarded personal property items brought to or left upon the garden premises.

GARDEN PLOT RENTAL FEES AND VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT

- i. Annual plot rental fees are \$35 per plot for City of Port Washington residents and \$45 per plot for non-residents. Preference will be given to Port Washington residents. Plot rental fees are nonrefundable. A maximum of two (2) garden plots may be rented annually per individual gardener.
- ii. Gardeners are required to perform at least two hours of volunteer activity per year for each plot rented. Volunteer activities may include, but are not limited to, weeding common areas of the garden, hauling/spreading compost, maintaining the water system and fence, and improving the site.
- iii. Gardeners **MUST** attend one garden kickoff meeting prior to the season opening of the garden. Volunteer activities will be assigned at this meeting. Important garden information including the combination to the locks on the gate and shed will also be shared at this meeting.
- iv. The Board may remove gardeners and reassign their plots for non-compliance with the rules stated herein.

USE OF PLOTS

- i. Each plot needs to be turned over and planting-ready by June 1.
- ii. All garden plots must be cleared and turned over by October 31. Additionally, all personal property, such as tools, trellises, tomato cages, temporary fencing and decorations, must be taken out of the garden each year by October 31, unless the gardener has completed their plot application and submitted their plot rental fee(s) for the following garden season.
- iii. Winter gardening is allowed for cool weather crops, but harvesting must be completed by December 31st of each year. Notification to the board of winter gardening is required.

iv. Do not enter another person's plot, borrow or take another person's tools, crops, or other property, without that person's prior permission.

v. Gardeners may use the water tank only by filling containers to be carried to their plots. Gardeners may not connect a hose to the tank, or water directly from the hydrant.

vi. Gardeners may not grow crops that will create excessive shade on neighboring plots. We offer these guidelines: (1) Plant crops that are taller than you in the middle of your plot, not along an edge. (2) Plant crops that are chest-high along no more than 1/2 the length of a shared edge.

vii. Herbicides and dusts, with the exception of diatomaceous earth, are prohibited.

viii. Gardeners may not allow weeds in their plots to go to seed or to spread by rhizomes or other means to other garden plots. The Board may remove gardeners who do not keep their garden plot(s) weeds under control.

ix. Gardeners are strongly encouraged to use mulch of weed-free types only.

x. Gardeners may plant perennials such as strawberries, rhubarb, asparagus, chives, and garlic in individual plots.

xi. Plants that spread via rhizomes (raspberries, blackberries, mint, lemon balm, etc.) are prohibited in individual plots. Raspberries and blackberries that currently exist in garden plots (these were planted prior to 2019) will be grandfathered in. These plants will be removed and disposed of when the gardeners discontinue renting those plots.

xii. Any plant species that is listed as Prohibited or Restricted under Wisconsin NR 40 (Invasive Species Classification) is banned from the garden, as are mint, borage, and trees or shrubs that grow taller than four feet in personal plots. For additional details about NR40, please see: Chapter NR 40 Wisconsin invasive species rule - Wisconsin DNR

GENERAL USE OF THE SITE

i. Parking is located along Kaiser Drive and Hales Trail. Please notice and obey the parking signs and exercise caution when crossing the street. Do not attempt to drive on the Interurban Trail as motorized vehicles are not allowed. Violators may be ticketed.

ii. For the safety of all gardeners, dogs are not allowed in the garden. Dogs can be secured outside of the garden at the north and south sides at designated fence posts, away from the Ozaukee Interurban Bike Trail while gardeners are inside.

iii. Gardeners must not leave soil, compost, bicycles, wheelbarrows, or other materials on or next to the Ozaukee Interurban Trail. While gardeners are at the site, items that are inconvenient to carry into the garden may be left along the north or south ends of the garden.

iv. Gardeners must keep walking paths clear of obstructions.

v. The main gate must be kept closed to prevent small animals from getting into the garden. The shed and the main gate must be locked by the last person to leave the garden. The locks will be keyed alike so that only one combination will be used. For security concerns, the

combination will be changed each year, or after any issues that arise that may put the garden at risk. The combination changes will be communicated to all current gardeners, the police department, the park and recreation department, and all other individuals that would need to know the combination.

vi. Crops that are grown in the common area(s) are available to all gardeners to share, except in special circumstances declared by the Board. Please be considerate of other gardeners when harvesting from common area(s).

vii. Do not trap vertebrate animals (such as squirrels) or feed animals, with the exception of beneficial wildlife, such as pollinators, that feed naturally on garden plants.

viii. Anyone observing theft or vandalism should directly call the Ozaukee County Sherriff's Department at (262) 284-7172 or the Port Washington Police Department at (262) 284-2611 to report non-emergency incidents. We encourage you to file a report with the Department should any major vandalism occur.