

Planting Through the Seasons

COOL WEATHER CROPS

Early Spring/Early Fall

arugula	lettuce
asparagus	onions
beets	parsnips
broccoli	peas
brussels sprouts	potatoes
cabbage	radicchio
carrots	radishes
cauliflower	swiss chard
celery	shallots
collards	spinach
kale	turnips
leeks	

WARM WEATHER CROPS

Late Spring/Summer

beans
cucumbers
eggplant
lima beans
melons
peppers
pumpkins
spinach (New Zealand)
squash, summer and winter
sweet potatoes
tomatoes

SHORT SEASON CROPS

For succession planting

arugula	onions
bush beans	peas
beets	radishes
cabbage	scallions
carrots	turnips
lettuce	

LEAST SPACE-CONSUMING

For raised beds

bush beans	onions
pole beans	parsnips
beets	radishes
carrots	swiss chard
chinese cabbage	cherry tomatoes
eggplant	grape tomatoes
leeks	turnips
lettuce	

TRANSPLANTS

No direct-seeding

tomatoes	leeks
peppers	cabbage
eggplant	sweet potatoes
broccoli	brussel sprouts

SHALLOW ROOTS

Can handle less water

legumes
crucifers
lettuces

COLD WEATHER CROPS

Early frost hardy

beets	lettuce
brussels sprouts	parsley
cabbages	peas
carrots	radishes
cauliflower	spinach
collards	swiss chard



2024

Armstrong Court Community Garden Handbook

WELCOME to our 16th year as a community of gardeners! Our organic community gardens continue to produce fresh food, great opportunities for wellness activities, good times, and wonderful gardening friends.

All gardeners are asked to read the handbook before signing the garden registration form, contract, waivers, and remitting their payment for garden membership for the season. This handbook is an important guide for new and returning gardeners. Please keep it handy and refer to it throughout the year.

Please visit our website or email us for additional information:
www.greenwichcommunitygardens.org
info@greenwichcommunitygardens.org

Armstrong Court Garden director email:
accg@greenwichcommunitygardens.org

Steering Committee:
Jason Grippo (director)
Sue Lord-Peters
Ann Shifman-Deibler
Maria Popp
Tricia Tozzi

COMMUNITY GARDENING GUIDELINES

As an all-volunteer organization, we rely on our garden members to maintain the shared spaces of the garden and contribute to the operations that sustain it.

GARDENER RESPONSIBILITIES

- All gardeners are required to help maintain the garden at-large for a minimum of **10 hours** between February and November. This work is organized into service days (garden opening & closing days), working on teams (such as Weeding, Repairs & Maintenance, Neighborly Harvest, Beautification), and volunteering for special projects.
- Please log community work hours under the "Gardeners" tab on our website.
- If you notice a garden plot that is not being cared for, please mention it to a garden director.

GARDEN PROPERTY

- Please keep the garden gates shut while you are in the garden and locked if you are the last one out.
- Always check to make sure no one else is in the garden before you lock the gates.
- Please do not take any plants or produce from other garden beds.
- Clean and return our garden tools to the shed after each use. Be sure to lock the shed if you are the last person using tools. Do not use other gardeners' tools or equipment without permission.
- Please be sure the water is turned off when you finish watering and rewind the hose.
- Report any sightings of woodchucks, rabbits, or other large animals within the garden by immediately calling a garden director or member of the steering committee.
- Do not plant, weed, or otherwise disturb areas outside the garden fence unless coordinated in advance with a garden director.
- Bathroom keys should be returned to the south shed after use.

GARDEN SAFETY

- There is **no smoking** in the garden.
- Pets are not allowed on Housing Authority property, including inside the garden fence.
- Do **not** use rebar or other potentially hazardous materials such as sharp wood stakes.
- Garden guests must abide by all garden rules. No guests are to be alone in the garden.
- Do **not** give the gate combination to any non-member without pre-approval.
- Please keep your cell phone with you while in the garden in case of medical or other emergencies.

VACATIONS & TIME AWAY FROM YOUR GARDEN

If you will be away from your garden for more than a few days, please ask a garden buddy to water and harvest your plot(s) as needed. If you need help finding someone, please contact a garden director or steering committee member (see front page). If you prefer to have a non-member maintain your garden while you are away, you must get approval from a garden director in advance. Non-members must sign a waiver and be pre-approved for access to the garden. Please allow extra time for this paperwork to be approved.

GARDENER EXPECTATIONS

- Preparation, weeding, and planting of gardens must start by **May 18**. If you're starting a new plot, or want to assess what your soil needs are, soil testing is useful. For instructions, go to: www.soiltest.uconn.edu.

Not abiding by these rules may result in the forfeiture of your plot.

- Only **organic** seeds and plants may be used. Only fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides **marked as organic** may be used.
- Gardens and wood-chip pathways must be regularly maintained: keep free of weeds, debris, equipment, tools, and non-garden materials. Pathways between gardens are shared space to be weeded and maintained by gardeners. Woodchips are periodically delivered for communal use by gardeners to spread on the paths.
- All organic debris must be taken to the appropriate area in the south end of the garden.
- All non-compostable material such as plastic, glass, or food wrappers must be removed and discarded in the dumpsters in the parking area. Do not throw any debris or garbage over the fences.
- No plot fencing or structures may be over 6 feet tall.
- No use of bird netting.
- No crops may be grown that will shade neighbors' plots, such as corn, hops, Jerusalem (*sun*) artichokes.
- No rapidly spreading plants like *mint* and *huacatay* are allowed. **Never plant these in your plot or in the ground anywhere in the garden.**
- Nothing may be grown a plot fence or exterior garden fences.
- All warnings about your plot by a garden director or member of the steering committee should be addressed within one week.

NEIGHORLY HARVEST PROGRAM

Greenwich Community Gardens supports the Neighbor to Neighbor food pantry by annually growing hundreds of pounds of fresh, organic produce. We encourage all members to help by donating extra produce from your gardens or by joining the Neighborly Harvest team to help grow. With your permission, we can harvest extra produce while you're on vacation so it does not go to waste. Contact Ann Shifman-Deibler for more information.