

Things to Know

Hilltop Community Garden, 20200 SW Martinazzi

The Tualatin United Methodist Church and campus are tobacco, alcohol, drug, and weapons free.

Please observe Covid safety guidelines such as wearing masks and social distancing.

Basic Considerations

Cost: Rent of \$30 per bed for the season is due when application is submitted. If no plot is available, a refund will be given. Your rent covers water and other expenses. A \$10 credit will be given for the following year's rent if your bed is cleaned up for the winter.

Facilities: You are welcome to bring your own tools, but tools are available in the storage shed. Please wipe away dirt and return tools to shed when finished. Code for lock available from Garden Manager. Note: We have no toilet at the garden.

Water: Hoses and watering wands are shared. Be careful when moving the hose around other beds. When finished please make sure water is turned off at the faucet. Return hoses by placing up the garden path so as not to be run over by a lawn mower. Be gentle with hoses and water wands.

Pets: Pets are not allowed in the garden area, but can be tied near the parking lot. Please take away any waste.

Children: Future gardeners are always welcome, but must be supervised at all times.

Parking: May be limited when other groups are using the church building, so come back another time when space is available. The driveway must remain clear for emergency vehicles.

First aid: A first aid kit is available in the garden shed. Call 911 for an emergency. The church address is above.

Your Responsibility to the Garden Community

Respect others' gardens; only touch your own!
Your bed and *pathways* need to be weeded regularly.
Join work parties when possible.

Community Expectations

We require that you attend a garden orientation to learn safety and basic operating procedures.

We follow organic growing practices. You may add organic materials as a "top dressing".

Dispose of plant waste in our compost area. Cut up woody material. Don't add diseased or mildew material; bag these and take to your home garbage. Please take away your trash and recyclables including plant containers.

What Other Community Gardeners Have Learned

Successful gardens require at least 1-2 hours a week of care during the active growing season.

Some popular vegetables don't work well in small raised beds. For example, corn grows tall and requires several plants to pollinate. Vining plants need trellises to be kept inside the bed area. Zucchini will soon take much space. Plants like mint, borage and purslane spread to everyone's bed and should be avoided.

Raised beds can accommodate tighter plant spacing but air circulation is important for growth and avoiding pests and diseases.

Powdery mildew, aphids, white cabbage moths, slugs and other irritants can be avoided by checking with the Garden Manager for preventive measures. Some flowering herbs attract good insects that devour bad ones and help pollinate your crop. The use of Diatomaceous Earth and Sluggo work well in an organic garden.

We try vigilantly to deter voles. It's an increasing problem. You are welcome to try any organic prevention or deterrent.

What We Will Do for You

- provide water, hoses and wands
- provide soil to top off beds
- organize work parties
- provide advice and share suggestions

Essential contacts:

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