

Maple Community Garden Conditions of Membership 2025

Maple Community Garden was founded in 1989 and has as its principal objectives the development of a spirit of active participation and cooperation amongst its members, and the promotion of organic gardening methods. Members share space together in a responsible and collaborative way so that everyone can have an enjoyable gardening experience ☺

The following Conditions of Membership apply to all members:

- a) One plot only per member; no subletting; no commercial use of plots or common areas.
- b) The primary member may name an associate member to attend work parties or Annual General Meetings in place of the primary member; if both the primary member and associate member are present at the same work party or meeting, credit for attendance shall be given only to the primary member.
- c) One plot corresponds to one vote in person at an Annual General Meeting.
- d) Only one Work Party alternative (in exceptional circumstances) is allowed per year. Members who need to do additional communal work to complete their minimum Work Parties are responsible for signing up for alternative work in common areas, to be arranged in advance with the Membership Chair.
- e) Payment of membership fee and signed Annual Contracts are both due at the Spring AGM or the first work party in March, otherwise plot may be reassigned.
- f) Raised beds must not be built up without discussing the proposed dimensions with the Executive.
- g) The use of row covers, cloches, greenhouses or similar structures are not allowed to block sunlight to neighbouring plots. For the same reason, tall plants must be grown on the North side of plots next to the fence.
- h) First year membership is on a conditional basis, therefore new members must meet all their responsibilities in their first year. If, in the determination of the Executive, a new member is not fulfilling the Conditions of Membership and abiding by the terms of the Annual Contract, they will not be offered membership the following year.

Any current member who, in the determination of the Executive, is not fulfilling the Conditions of Membership and abiding by the terms of the Annual Contract will be subject to conditional membership status which will not be given two years in a row.
- i) If a member is not fulfilling the Conditions of Membership and abiding by the terms of the Annual Contract: The Chair and Vice Chair, in collaboration with the Membership Chair, will attempt to make a verbal request prior to sending written email notice to advise the member of the concern, and will provide 14 full days for the member to address the concern.
 - If concern is addressed within 14 days: no further action. However, if additional concerns come up in the same growing season the member may be placed on conditional membership.
 - If concern is **not** addressed: both a second written email notice and voice mail will be sent to the member advising that they are being placed on conditional membership as a result of the outstanding concern. The member will be provided with 7 additional days to address the concern.
 - If concern is addressed within 7 days: member will be removed from conditional membership, and must continue to meet their obligations and abide by the Annual Contract.
 - If concern is **not** addressed: Garden membership will be terminated, and plot reassigned.
- j) For new membership applications, preference will be given to those with no garden plots elsewhere, and who are Kitsilano residents.
- k) The Executive may make rare exceptions to any of the membership conditions subject to special extenuating circumstances.

Maple Community Garden Annual Contract 2025

Name _____ Entry Year _____ Section: _____ Plot: _____ Fee: _____

As a Maple Community Garden Member, I _____ agree to:

- 1) Attend at least 1 Annual General Meeting every two years, and participate respectfully according to normal meeting procedures. If unable to attend the AGM, member must send a proxy with regrets to the Executive in advance AND attend the Fall General Meeting.
- 2) Participate in a minimum of 4 work parties and one section work party per year.
- 3) Take on an MCG support role at least once every 3 years to serve as either; a member of the Executive, Section Lead, Work Party Lead, Special Project Lead, Committee member, Event Coordinator, or other support roles as created by the Exec.
- 4) Collaborate and participate in activities for my specific Section.
- 5) Use only organic gardening practices (i.e. no chemical fertilizers, pesticides, or herbicides).
- 6) Supply my own trowel, clippers, and all other tools needed to maintain my plot.
- 7) Non-participation in a supporting role within a 3-year period will result in termination of my membership.
- 8) Use the water system responsibly and conservatively.
- 9) Not use motorized garden/construction equipment in or around the garden, and avoid loud cell phone use when other gardeners are present.
- 10) Maintain my plot on a regular basis [including the area/pathways around my plot and outside the fence along 6th Avenue], and to:
 - keep grass clipped
 - dispose of weeds, and diseased or invasive plants promptly away from the garden area, *particularly Morning Glory, Buttercup and Goutweed which spread rapidly to other plots*
 - harvest mature crops promptly to prevent disease and deter rodents
 - have winter/spring weed growth cleared by April 1
 - have plot planted by May 25, unless extreme weather delays
 - have plot cleared of summer/fall weed growth/finished plants by November 1.
- 11) Keep informed of meeting dates, work party dates, and other garden information by either signing up for website news at www.maplecommunitygarden.ca , or by providing your email address for email notifications, and by checking the Notice Board in West Common area regularly.
- 12) Contribute actively, be respectful of others, and foster a spirit of cooperation between and among members. Most importantly, enjoy!

I agree that neither Maple Community Garden nor the City of Vancouver will bear any responsibility for any injuries incurred by me in or around Maple Community Garden.

The governance of this contract shall be solely by the Executive of Maple Community Garden.

I have read and understand the Maple Community Garden Conditions of Membership and Annual Contract and by signing below, agree to abide by their terms.

Primary Member: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Associate Member (if applicable): _____

Phone: _____ ***Email*** _____