

Thank you for your interest in the Yellowknife Community Garden Collective. To smoothly operate the Collective, there are a few rules to know when you become a member!

Gardening Etiquette Rules

Organic Gardening. Garden Sites are organic. This means that **no** chemical fertilizers or weed suppressants may be used. Organic fertilizers include manure, compost, bone meal, blood meal and grass clippings.

Hand Watering. In order to ensure water conservation and to avoid damage from hoses being dragged across plots, watering is done by hand. Watering cans are provided in the garden sheds. The use of hoses is not permitted.

Weed free plots and walkways. Each member is responsible to keep their plot weed free as well as the walkways on all three sides of their plot. Weeds are removed from the site to the natural growing areas well outside the fence. It is important to keep the garden plots weed free as weeds reduce garden productivity, rob the garden of nutrients and water and will spread to neighboring plots. Some weeds, once established, are impossible to remove from the site. Plot managers will assist novice gardeners in identifying weeds. The planting of perennials is discouraged and the planting of invasive perennials such as raspberries is not allowed.

Food Charity. One of the Garden Collective's founding goals is to assist with food security through food donations. One-quarter of each plot must be dedicated to growing food for charity. The garden board will designate a 25% area in the plot, and each charity has designated which crops they wish to receive. Therefore members will know which crops to grow for their charity of choice. Members must weight donations and record their donation on forms provided in the garden sheds. Crops that store easily are best for donations, however, members are encouraged to also give to charity from the abundance of their soft vegetable crops.

Annual General Meeting Attendance. The by-laws state that, "Members who fail to attend the Annual General Meeting in person or by proxy will not be considered for membership renewal the following society year."

Garden Collective Duties. Members agree to not only maintain their own garden plot but also to participate in the maintenance and upkeep of each garden site. Members are needed to participate in regular maintenance chores and special work-bee activities. Participation is recorded.

Harvesting. Timely harvesting of produce from each member's plot prevents wastage. Site Managers will contact members who do not appear to be harvesting produce in a timely manner and if no contact can be made, the plot will be harvested and donated to charity.

Fall Clean-up. Each plot is allotted on a year-to year basis, therefore no permanent structures or items of decoration will be left on the plot at the end of the gardening season. Each plot will be left free of any debris. Compostables will be dug into the soil or placed in compost bins on site.