



## Lake Hills Greenbelt & Crossroads Par 3 Park P-PATCH GARDEN RULES

1. Gardeners are required to follow the Garden rules herein and the Bellevue Parks and Recreation Facilities Code Chapter 3.43 BCC while in the P-Patch. The Parks & Facilities Codes can be found at: <https://bellevue.municipal.codes/BCC/3.43>.
2. Hours: The garden is open between dawn and dusk.
3. Age: Registered gardeners must be 18 years or older.
4. Accommodations: Gardeners with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations for access to the P-Patch. For more information, please contact P-Patch staff.
5. Code of Conduct: Gardeners are required to comply with the Bellevue Parks & Community Services Department Code of Conduct (included in registration materials). For additional copies, please contact P-Patch staff.
6. Signs: No signs may be posted in the P-Patch and in any plot except for plant labels identifying species of plants.
7. Being a Considerate Community Gardener:
  - It is the gardener's responsibility to notify the P-patch staff if they are unable to care for their plot.
  - Be courteous of your fellow gardeners and do not shade or encroach on other plots. Any garden items that enter a neighbor's plot can be removed by your neighbor.
  - Gardeners may harvest from their plot/s only. Due to the public nature of the garden, the city cannot be responsible for any loss of garden produce or products. Please notify the police or garden staff if you witness vandalism or theft of any kind.
  - Children must be accompanied by an adult and supervised at all times. Children using tools in the garden must be under the direct and constant

supervision of a responsible adult. "Direct" means to be within sight and voice distance.

- Pets are not allowed in the garden.
- Tobacco in all forms is prohibited.
- Use common courtesy and direct communication to resolve differences in a timely and neighborly way. To resolve problems with fellow gardeners, please speak directly with each other before contacting P-Patch staff. Be polite and listen carefully, usually, a solution is within reach.

8. Use of Individual Plot Space, Gardening and Maintenance:

- Use organic gardening inputs and methods only. Chemical herbicides, chemical pesticides, and chemical fungicides are not allowed. Please use organic methods and materials (compost, fish meal, composted manure, lime, etc.).
- Garden space must be weeded and planted by May 15<sup>th</sup> or within 2 weeks of plot assignment if assigned on or after May 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Active gardening reflects seasonality (i.e., winterization by October 31, spring weeding and planting, fall cleanup, summer maintenance, harvesting, etc.).
- No composting of food scraps (food waste from your home or from outside of the garden).
- If vacations or other circumstances prevent the plot holder from caring for the plot space, they must arrange for someone else to care for it in a way consistent with P-Patch standards.
- Monitoring plot use: P-Patch staff monitor plots throughout the year. When a garden space is untended, the plot holder will be contacted and asked to take care of the space by a certain date. If P-Patch staff contacts a plot holder about an untended garden space twice in one year, staff will reassign the garden space.
- Gardeners are responsible for all tilling, cultivating, weeding, fertilizing, watering, end-of-season clean up, and all other care of their plots.
- Gardeners are responsible for their own tools. Tools and gardening materials may not be left in the garden plot when not in use, except for the Crossroads Garden Shed (Crossroads Gardeners, please see Crossroads Garden Shed Rules found at the bottom of the rules). No storage is available in the Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station P-Patch Garden.
- Pathways must be clear of all hoses and gardening materials.
- All plots are rented for one year, beginning in January. However, by

October 31st gardeners who are not winter gardening are required to remove all materials from their plots including pots, wire tomato cages, trellises, stakes, tools, etc. If gardeners fail to adequately clean out their plots, P-Patch staff will reassign the plot.

- Do not expand your garden space beyond its designated area.
- Yard waste bins are for garden use only. Sod, soil, and rocks aren't allowed in the yard waste bins. To avoid overfilling bins, please move bins out to the parking lot curb when they are more than three-quarters full or reasonably heavy.
- The city does not allow any dumping/storage of garden items/debris outside your garden plot. Items found to be littered or dumped will be disposed of and violators will immediately forfeit their plot(s). Please take large items with you for proper disposal.
- Plants grown in the garden must be garden-friendly. No controlled substances or noxious weeds (as noted on the Washington State Noxious Weeds List) are permitted to be grown in the garden beds. Gardeners are responsible for removing diseased plants. The Noxious Weeds List can be found at: <https://www.nwcb.wa.gov/printable-noxious-weed-list>
- P-Patch gardens are to be used for recreational gardening of vegetables and flowers for family use only. Growing vegetables and flowers for commercial purposes is prohibited.

9. Garden Renewal and Plot Turnover: Renewal of garden plots will be sent to gardeners in good standing each year via email unless you request and provide a different specific contact method. Please notify us on your application form if you have completed a scholarship request.

- Annual renewal: Plot holders in good standing\* can request to renew their garden space annually.
  - Renewal requests information will be sent to gardeners in good standing each year via email unless you request and provide a different specific contact method.
  - Renewal application paperwork and payments are due in full by the renewal deadline listed on your renewal form. Please notify us on your application form if you have completed a scholarship request.
- Gardeners are allowed one garden plot per resident household each year (January 1 – December 31.) Returning gardeners in good standing\* have priority to renew a garden plot. Returning applicants need to complete the garden application, waivers, rules agreement, and return payment by the listed application deadline. Gardens are leased from

January 1-December 31.

- A plot holder cannot give garden space to others.
- Co-Gardeners are allowed. However, they can only become the primary plot holder if they have been co-gardening long enough to be assigned a plot from the waiting list.
- When the plot holder no longer wants the plot:
  - They must notify and establish a timeline for turnover with a P-Patch staff person.
  - They need to leave the garden space in reasonable condition. They must remove all structures and other non-plant materials unless arrangements are made with garden leadership.
  - Plot holders are not allowed to permanently work other peoples' plots.
- Gardeners who fall out of good standing will not be eligible for renewal.
- *\*A Gardener in good standing is a gardener who has had no outstanding plot compliance issues during the year and has received no more than two notifications of non-compliance.*

10. Plot requests:

- Specific plots, locations, or bed types need to be submitted on your renewal forms. Plot assignments are made at the discretion of City staff.
- Second plot requests will not be accommodated if we have a waiting list.

11. New Gardeners: Garden plots for New Gardeners will be open to Bellevue residents starting late in the current year or early in the new year.

- New gardener applicants need to complete the garden application, waivers, and rules agreement, and return payment no later than the deadline listed on their application packets. Please indicate on your application if you plan to use a scholarship.
- Assignment of new garden plots will be awarded on a first-come first-served basis via our waiting list, with priority given to Bellevue residents and first-time gardeners.

12. Structures (fences, raised beds, trellises, etc.):

- You build it, you remove it. Prior to designing, purchasing, and implementing an individual plot construction, please check with staff to ensure your project is feasible.
- The P-Patch Program discourages individual plot structures. If the plot


holder feels there are conditions that warrant an individual fence, raised bed, trellises, etc., the plot holder must adhere to the following criteria:

- The height limit for perimeter plot fencing is 3'; exceptions are allowed only with P-Patch staff approval.
  - For the safety of gardeners, visitors, and wildlife the structure must be:
    - Placed within the perimeter of the plot.
    - Securely and safely built, without infringing upon any pathway or neighboring plot.
    - Be safely secured and must not shade neighboring plots.
    - Must not pose potential harm to others.
    - Will not interfere with neighboring plots in any way.
    - Temporary plant supports and trellises must be taken down for the winter by October 31st.
  - Locks: Anything that gives the visual impression or actual function of a lock on your fence or in your plot is not allowed.
  - Tires, railroad ties, and treated/painted lumber are not allowed.
13. Plants: Tall plants and trellises that support them must not shade neighboring plots.
14. Water: Service is turned off and drained by November (or the first deep frost). It remains off for the winter months and is turned back on in the spring after April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The city provides irrigation water for garden purposes. All water use must be monitored to minimize water use and runoff. Gardeners are responsible for providing hoses and sprinklers, which may not be left in walkways.
  - Sprinklers & drip systems:
    - The gardener must be present while water is running, or hoses are connected to a water source.
    - The system must not affect other gardening spaces or a gardener's access to water.
  - Never water others' garden plots without permission.
15. Winterization: If you are not planning to garden through the winter your plot must be winterized by October 31.
- To winterize: Cut down and either work into the soil or place in the yard waste bins your annual plants.

- When not in use, plots must be covered with a cover crop, straw, burlap, jute netting, or something similar. Plastic sheeting cannot be used to cover plots for the winter.
- Unused items such as fencing, stakes, poles, etc. must be removed at the end of the growing season. Unused items cannot be stored in your plot. Leaving debris or failing to grow in or winterize your plot will result in the loss of your renewal privileges.

16. **For Crossroads Gardeners:** The Crossroads Garden Shed is available upon request. Approved storage items are limited to personal, non-motorized garden tools only (wheelbarrows, shovels, rakes, hoses, gloves, etc.). Fertilizers, chemicals of any kind, slug bait, fuel, petroleum products, plant matter, pots, gardening clothing, boots, etc.) cannot be stored in the Crossroads Garden Shed. All personal tools stored in the shed must be clearly marked with the name and contact information of the gardener. The city accepts no responsibility for any tools, equipment, supplies, or other personal belongings in the shed. All personal belongings remaining in the Garden Shed after a gardener is no longer registered will be disposed of by the City by January 1 of the next registration year. The shed is to remain locked at all times. A key or code to the shed will be issued to Crossroads Gardeners upon request and after registration and payment have been received.



 For alternate formats, interpreters, or reasonable accommodation requests please phone at least 48 hours in advance 425-452-6993 (voice) or email [communitygarden@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:communitygarden@bellevuewa.gov). For complaints regarding accommodations, contact City of Bellevue ADA/Title VI Administrator at 425-452-6168 (voice) or email [ADATitleVI@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:ADATitleVI@bellevuewa.gov). If you are deaf or hard of hearing dial 711. All meetings are wheelchair accessible.