

Gardeners' Welcome and Guidelines

Welcome to the Hobsonville Point Catalina Community Garden. This welcome contains important information about how our community garden operates and who to contact with questions. It also contains information about how you can get involved to make the garden run smoothly and efficiently.

Because community gardening requires a fair amount of work beyond tending to a plot, **every gardener is asked to participate to the best of their ability in the management and upkeep of the entire garden.**

A community garden is a place to grow food, plants and herbs in the company of friends, family and neighbours. For others it is a place to reconnect with nature or get physical exercise. Regardless of why you choose to use the garden it is expected that you will treat it and fellow gardeners with respect and kindness.

Responsibilities of members and volunteers include 1) primary access to and maintenance of a plot if membership for a plot has been paid, and 2) a contribution to the upkeep and management of the entire garden.

Rewards are the success and vibrancy of a community garden with the benefits of healthy food, physical exercise, mental health and companionship.

General Gardener Guidelines

1. Gardeners are responsible for reading and following all guidelines and safety information.
2. All members are asked to actively participate in the maintenance and development of the community garden. Please tend to your plot and the communal areas in the vicinity of your plot.
3. The principles of sustainable gardening should be followed: Composting, organic fertilizers and pest control.
<https://www.greenelephant.co.nz/organic-gardening-6-key-principles/>
4. It is the responsibility of the user to clean and return any shared gardening equipment to its source.
5. The responsibility of the individual's equipment lies with the owner and individual's equipment cannot be left on site without liaising with the garden committee.

6. The garden is a smoke free area.
7. Dogs must be kept on a leash.
8. Children must be supervised in the garden.
9. If a disagreement arises between gardeners, relating to the garden, please contact the Garden Coordinator/s who will work with the parties involved to resolve the issue.
10. Garden only during daylight hours and have a phone with you.
11. Use water responsibly, no unattended watering.
12. Report theft or vandalism to the garden committee.
13. Enjoy your gardens

Catalina Community Garden Maintenance Guidelines

My Plot

1. I will keep my plot planted for the majority of the term of my use, and it will be well-tended. If I am away for long periods of time I will arrange for someone to maintain my plot.
2. I will plant tall crops where they will not shade neighbouring plots.
3. I will only pick my own crops unless given permission by another plot user.
4. I will not use fertilizers, insecticides or weed repellents that will in any way compromise the health of the soil and/or affect other plots.
5. I will use my own plants and compost until such time as there is a surplus available.
6. I will keep weeds at a minimum and maintain the areas immediately surrounding my plot.
7. I will keep rubbish out of the plot, as well as from adjacent pathways and fences.
8. If I intend to give up my plot for any reason, I will notify the garden leadership within four weeks of not using the plot. I will ensure it is dug over and weed free.

The Communal Gardens

1. I agree to volunteer some time toward community gardening efforts. I will participate in seasonal work-days/clean-ups of the garden.
2. I agree to maintain the communal pathways surrounding my plot (weeding etc.)
3. I will keep the assets of the community garden clean and tidy, such as looking after equipment, the garden shed, composting area and other communal spaces.
4. I understand that neither the garden group nor the owners of the land are responsible for my actions.
5. I will use common courtesy, be considerate of my gardening neighbours and enjoy the garden.