

Tarland Community Garden

Garden Guidelines for Members

Tarland Community Garden is a place to grow, share and learn. It's also a place to relax and unwind. Following the guidelines on this sheet will help everyone to enjoy the garden.

Members are expected to show consideration and respect for others at all times in the garden, and to ensure that their activities do not adversely affect others.

Members are expected to share responsibility for the overall maintenance of the garden according to ability and availability, and to take part in any general tasks on site.

Your membership

- a) One membership per household at present, and all produce can only be for the use of the member and their family. i.e. produce not to be sold.
- b) Membership can't be sub-let, but you can share membership, with the agreement of the committee.
- c) The minimum age for membership is 16
- d) Membership runs annually, with renewals due 1st Feb. If a membership isn't renewed, it will be advertised for rent. If there is a waiting list, the membership will be offered to the first person on the list.
- e) If you do not want to renew your membership, please clear your bed of all plants before 1st Feb.
- f) If you can, please walk or cycle to the garden. Please park cars in the car park, not on the road.

Raised bed maintenance

- a) Please keep the woodchip around your bed(s) clear of weeds and tidy up spilled compost.
- b) For your wellbeing, and to avoid damage to the environment, we hope the garden will be cultivated as organically as possible. Non-organic pesticides, fungicides etc should only be used with the permission of the committee and when all else has failed. A disease and pest management strategy will be in place, and advice and support to deal with any problems will be available. Organic fertiliser is available on site for members to use. Peat-free compost is available for members to add to their beds.
- c) Beds should be kept free of invasive weeds/plants.
- d) Members should ensure that all rubbish not suitable for composting is removed from the site. Rubbish should not be allowed to accumulate on beds or general areas.
- e) Try not to let any windbreaks or growing/training frames significantly overshadow your neighbours' beds.
- f) In the polytunnel, please use cane toppers, and keep plant supports away from the sides of the tunnel. Please take **extra care** not to damage the polytunnel plastic.
- g) Watering. The polytunnel raised beds have a seep hose irrigation system to keep the soil damp. Thirstier plants may you to give them additional water. The water comes from the nearby burn, and is **not drinking water. Please wash produce before consuming.**

Your safety and enjoyment

- a) Please read and follow the health and safety guidelines given to all members. If you bring visitors to the site, please ask them to follow these guidelines too.
- b) For their own safety, children in your care need to be supervised **at all times**.
- c) Dogs. Only guide dogs are permitted in the garden. A dog-friendly area, (e.g. water bowl) will be provided immediately outwith the garden fence.
- d) The garden is a no-smoking area.
- e) Please clean and return communal tools to the shed after use.
- f) Please keep pathways clear of trip hazards.
- g) The garden is only suitable for growing fruit, veg and flowers. No livestock e.g. hens
- h) Please don't have a bonfire on the site.
- i) No items may be stored on individual beds or general site unless used for the cultivation or maintenance of the member's bed(s)
- j) No nuisance should be caused to other members (e.g. loud radios).
- k) Any complaints should be made in writing to the Secretary.
- l) Please report any accidents and incidents to the committee.

Tasks and Responsibilities

Work parties will be held as required. Please try and attend at least twice yearly.

The finished Garden should require relatively little maintenance, and tasks will include;

- a) Weeding/tidying communal areas
- b) Pruning fruit trees and bushes
- c) Path maintenance
- d) Shed tidying/cleaning
- e) Tools maintenance

Site Security and Access

- a) Gate - Combination lock on pedestrian gate
- b) Shed - Key in keysafe at right of main doors. Same combination as gate
- c) Toilet - Key in keysafe at left of toilet door. Same combination as gate

Community Garden Principles: Respect, Equality, Tolerance

Members of the community garden are expected to treat each other fairly, equally, with consideration and respect. The community garden is a place in which differing ideas, abilities, backgrounds and needs are supported and valued, and people with diverse backgrounds and experiences are able to participate and contribute. Members are expected to adhere to the principles of equal opportunities to ensure that no individual or groups of people is, or are, discriminated against on any grounds, (such as age, ethnicity, nationality, gender, sexuality, marital status, disability, religion or belief, class, employment status, etc.)

Any concerns or complaints in relation to the above should be raised as soon as possible with a Committee member. The committee will use common sense and will aim to resolve most problems informally through dialogue. However, if necessary, the complaints procedure will be followed.

d) Polytunnel - Leave doors as found