



Clark County

1919 NE 78th Street
Vancouver, WA 98665-9752
360-397-6060 FAX: 360-759-6524
<http://clark.wsu.edu>

Heritage Farm Community Garden Contract Example.

We are happy to be able to offer you a garden plot this year. Please read through all the information included and if you would like to rent a garden plot, return the registration materials.

You will need to make your payment before the plot is officially assigned to you and we will send payment instructions and Gate code once we have received your signed registration.

- Existing community gardeners need to have their contracts and plot payment by Last day in February.
- New gardeners need to have their payment made within **30 days after signing the contract.**

If payment is not made **by the deadline** your plot will be forfeited.

What you need to do:

1. Review the information in this packet, including the General Rules.
2. Complete the registration form.
3. Sign/initial all forms (registration, general rules, and release of claims, watering agreement).
4. Make online payment. Instructions will be provided upon the return of completed forms.

You may complete this digitally or print & mail the forms to us **OR** scan & email them back to me at.

Address:

WSU Clark County Extension
Att. Community garden Jodee Nickel
Heritage Farm
1919 NE 78th Street
Vancouver, WA 98665-9752

Email: Jodee.Nickel@Clark.wa.gov

Payment Information:

Each plot costs \$60, which helps cover partial expenses for the coordinator, water, and maintenance. Payment details will follow the successful return of the completed garden registration.

Thank you and we look forward to gardening together!

78th St. Community Garden

Example of -GARDENER- Garden Registration Form

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone (Home): _____ (Work/Cell): _____

ASSIGNED PLOT NUMBER: _____

*If you are a returning gardener, your plot number(s) is (are) the same as it was last year

- Do you need ADA access to a garden plot? YES NO
What type of accommodation do you require? _____
Does your vehicle have a handicapped sticker or license plate? Yes No
- Are you a new gardener to the farm (did not have a plot at the farm last year)?
YES NO
- **Each plot costs \$60.00 (per plot each year).** We will provide instructions on payment to after you return your completed registration.

I have read and agree to follow all 78th Street Heritage Farm and community garden guidelines and operating principals.

By typing your name below you have agreed to the Rules, terms and policies of The Heritage Farm Community Gardens

Type your name: _____ Date: _____

78th St. Community Garden - Season General Rules

Hours: Dawn to dusk.

Vehicles: Vehicles are prohibited from being driven and parked by the gardens except to deliver materials, after which they should be parked in the parking lots on the south and west side of the Heritage Farm administrative building.

Garden Access: Gardeners will be given the farm **pedestrian gate code** for access to the garden and are notified of changes to the code. Please close the gate when you leave.

Handicap access. Gardeners with current handicap stickers or license plates will be allowed to park near the gardens as long as they do not block vehicle or tractor routes. Please ask at the front desk to open the front gate (knock if the front door is locked) during business hours 8-5 M-F.

Delivering materials. Gardeners delivering materials may ask at the front desk to open the front gate (knock if the front door is locked) during business hours 8-5 M-F. They will be issued a temporary gate card to drop materials off at the gardens. However, gardeners need return the gate card and park in the parking lot immediately after dropping off materials (approximately half an hour).

Pets: Pets are prohibited on the Farm, please leave them at home.

Alcohol and Drugs. Alcoholic beverages and illegal drugs are prohibited on the Farm; no smoking of any kind including e- cigarettes and Marijuana.

Home use of produce. Produce is intended for home use, do not sell or use garden produce for profit.

Children: Gardening is a fabulous family activity! However, please directly supervise and be responsible for your children while working in the garden. Do not allow them to roam unsupervised out of your garden plot.

The garden is chemical-free. *Much of the farm uses limited or no chemicals, except where absolutely necessary for maintenance or research.* Please do not use synthetic chemical fertilizers, pesticides or herbicides in your garden plot. If you have a question on what is considered safe or organic, please check with the community garden coordinator. This is one of the guiding principles for all land management at Heritage Farm. See [sustainable agriculture](#) for more information.

If you see a gardener using chemicals in their plot and do not feel comfortable speaking directly to them regarding this chemical use, please contact us and we will remind the gardener(s) that the garden is chemical free (we will keep your identity anonymous).

Water Use Guidelines: Please conserve water by adhering to the 78th St. Community Garden Water Guidelines found on the last page of this document.

Tools: Gardeners provide their own tools. If you leave tools onsite, it is advisable to have your name on your tools, watering cans, etc. If you use the few garden-owned tools in the shed, please clean and return them to their proper place when done. *78th St. Community Gardens are not responsible for damaged or stolen tools.*

Soil Amendments & Compost: Gardeners must provide their own soil amendments, including compost. At certain times, we may provide wood chips, leaves, or such, and we will announce this to the group. These will be available to all on a first come, first served basis.

Allowable Plants: Annual vegetables, flowers, herbs; small perennial herbs/plants (i.e. artichoke a ok); **No trees, shrubs or Marijuana.** Avoid shading your neighbors' plots with your trellis, etc.

Harvest Your Own. Unless invited, harvest only your own produce and flowers from your assigned plot. **Harvesting or removing anything from another garden plot without permission is considered stealing and will result in the permanent loss of your plot without a refund.**

Donating Produce. If your garden produces more than your needs, you are encouraged to contribute a portion of the harvest to an agency that will channel the surplus to those who need it. If you are interested in donating produce or volunteering for the Clark County Food Bank Gardens (located at Heritage Farm), you can contact the Clark County Food Bank at: farm@clarkcountyfoodbank.org or 360-693-0939.

Garden Plot Care & Maintenance

- Please begin work on your garden plot within two weeks of the date assigned the plot (weather permitting).
- **Consistently attend to your plot and pathways**, weeding, harvesting, watering, and checking periodically as necessary.
 1. **Keep your garden free of overripe, rotting and spoiled fruit and vegetables;**
 2. **Keep paths adjacent to your parcel at their original widths and free of weeds; do not pile weeds in paths when weeding your plot. You are responsible for your walkways!**
 3. **Keep your crops trimmed out of all pathways; plants extending into the pathway will be cut back.**
 4. **No standing water in open containers.**
 5. **Do not bring yard debris or rotten fruit from home to compost in your garden plot.**
- **Renters neglecting their plots will be notified and given two weeks to clean up their plot.** Continued inactivity will be viewed as abandonment of the garden plot and the renter will forfeit the plot without refund. Consider arranging for someone to take care of your plot if you are ill or on vacation. *The community garden and its coordinator are not responsible for the upkeep of your plot.* Please notify the coordinator if you become unable to maintain your plot.
- **Winter Use & Preparation.** You are invited to garden over the winter, however please note that water will be shut off until the spring; please remove hoses and irrigation. If you do not choose to grow over the winter, clear all dead plants and harvest any remaining vegetables to prepare the ground for the winter season. Remove cages and properly mulch the ground for winter by November of the growing season. **Do not use hay and/or grass clippings as mulch since they can spread weed seeds! A good way to ensure easy spring planting is to cover your plot with a tarp, black plastic or plant cover crop.**

Contact Information: Please keep the community garden coordinator notified of your current contact information, including your address, telephone number, and email. **Any correspondence mailed to the current address/email on file is considered delivered.**

Plot # _____

I have read and agree to follow the general rules and regulations: _____

**78th St. Community Garden
Release of All Claims**

I, *(please print your name)* _____, am a participant in the 78th St. Community Garden. As a condition of being allowed to participate in the Community Garden, I agree to the following:

- 1) I am duly aware of the risks and hazards that may arise through participation in the 78th St. Community Garden, and assume any expenses and liabilities I incur in the event of an accident, illness or other incapacity. If I have any questions about the community garden, its nature, risks or hazards, I will contact the garden coordinator and discuss those questions with him or her to my satisfaction.
- 2) In consideration of being granted the opportunity to participate in the 78th St. Community Garden, I, for myself, my executors, administrators, agents and assigns do hereby release and forever discharge the Farm Site Coordinator, garden coordinator, volunteers, other gardeners, and the cooperating landowner (Clark County and its employees) and managers (Washington State University and its employees) all claims of damages, demands, and any actions whatsoever, including those based on negligence, in any manner arising out of my participation in this activity. I understand that this Release means that, among other things, I am giving up my right to sue for any such losses, damages, injury or costs that I may incur.

I represent and certify that my true age is either 18 years old or older, or if I am under 18 years old on this date, my parent or legal guardian has read and signed this form. I have read this entire Release, fully understand it, and I agree to be legally bound by it.

By typing your name below you have agreed to the Rules, terms and policies of The Heritage Farm Community Gardens

Type your Name _____ Date _____

Return to:

WSU Clark County Extension
Att. Community garden Jodee Nickel
Heritage Farm
1919 NE 78th Street
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Email: Jodee.Nickel@clark.wa.gov

78th St. Community Garden - Watering Agreement and Guidelines

One of the guiding principles for the 78th St. Heritage Farm Site is to: *Showcase and promote sustainable and commercial agricultural practices*

As farmers and gardeners know, water is a limited resource. Water conservation is beneficial to the environment and your community garden neighbors. Conserving water means more water availability for everyone (plants, animals and people). In order to follow the site's guiding principles, we have created water conservation guidelines for the 78th St. Community Garden.

Participation in the gardens includes an agreement to follow the water conservation guidelines listed below. Failure to meet the guidelines will result in a warning and if repeated may result in termination of your plot without refund.

Watering methods

Acceptable watering methods:

- 1) Hose with nozzles/watering cans
 - Dig a moat/trench in a circle around the plants.
 - Water each plant individually—close to the roots.
 - See below for more tips and ideas for watering with a hose.
- 2) Soaker hoses/drip irrigation
 - Drip is very effective and if done right, only needs to be turned on for less than 5 minutes at a time and waters your whole garden! You need to be present and monitor your system. **Please do not turn it on and leave the site.**

Unacceptable high water use methods:

- Overhead sprinklers.
- Flood irrigation in full rows.

Water conservation tips and pointers

- Dig with a trowel to the root depth, squeeze a handful of soil; if it sticks together it does not need to be watered.
- Water in the early morning (preferable) or evening, not the hottest part of the day.
- Do not stand in the garden and spray the plants/ground lightly every day. This is not an effective watering system, is wasteful, and waters the weed seeds, too! Water thoroughly and less often to encourage roots to seek water and nutrients deep in the soil. With an extensive, deep root system, plants are better able to withstand dry periods. When watering, soak the soil to a depth of at least 6 to 8 inches.
- Know how much water each plant needs. For example, beans typically need a lot of water, whereas tomatoes need much less (and can be dry-farmed!)
- **Overwatering.** Check plants for moisture before watering. If the leaves turn yellow and drop, you could be overwatering. Over-watering can cause just as much damage to the plants as under-watering. Vegetables like moisture, but over-watering is harmful. Over-watering prevents the roots from getting air.

- **Under-watering.** If your plants look wilted on a hot summer afternoon, that's normal. They will usually perk up overnight. If plants are wilted in the morning, don't wait—water. Look for clues such as curling leaves, a grayish color and permanent wilting, which indicate under watering.
- Keep your plots weeded. Weeds steal moisture from desirable plants.
- Consider mulching; it creates a barrier that reduces evaporation.
- **Milk Jug Watering.** Try cutting the top from gallon-size milk jugs, punch very small holes in the bottoms, and set them in the ground with only the neck showing above the surface. Use one jug near (or between) each large (tomato or squash) plant and fill it with water once or twice a week (or more often if needed). When the plants start fruiting (fruits are the size of a quarter), add one or two teaspoons of a complete organic fertilizer, such as 5-10-10, to each jug once a week. You can use large cans in place of jugs.

Plot # _____

Please initial to affirm your agreement with the watering guidelines: _____

[Click here to Submit](#)