



Welcome new & returning members to our 14<sup>th</sup> season of community gardening!

**Whitefish Community Garden Membership Agreement + Garden Guidelines:**

The primary goal of these guidelines is to ensure an enjoyable gardening experience for all members.

All gardeners are expected to observe our gardening guidelines & be a good gardening neighbor.

Website: [www.whitefishcommunitygarden.com](http://www.whitefishcommunitygarden.com) Email: [Whitefishcommunitygarden2@gmail.com](mailto:Whitefishcommunitygarden2@gmail.com)

**To keep your 2021 bed send contract & fee for our receipt no later than March 1.** Bed assignment is on a first come, first served basis. Fee includes water, utilities, manure, wood chips, tools & garden maintenance. Complete member agreement & mail with \$50 fee made payable to Whitefish Community Garden to PO Box 5415, Whitefish, MT 59937 for our receipt NO LATER THAN MARCH 1. After this date beds will be assigned to those on our wait list: new members will receive an email with orientation info prior to opening day.

**All members agree to a minimum of 6 hours of volunteer work outside their own bed for garden upkeep.** Volunteer hours might include & can be spread throughout the season:

**Shared beds we all care for:** asparagus, blueberries, flowers, herbs, raspberries, strawberries + the orchard with apples, plums, cherries. See if these areas need weeding or watering.

**Food Bank beds:** help our team plant, tend & harvest these beds. Everyone is welcome to attend a weekly harvest from mid-June through mid-September. For info email Wendy at [Caraboo728@gmail.com](mailto:Caraboo728@gmail.com). Too much of something? Can't harvest before it bolts? Contribute to a harvest by responding to our weekly email. We will *gently pick* as directed.

**You are important to keeping WCG productive.** Attend work days & complete a task on the "to do" list.

**If prior to or during the garden season you decide that you can no longer maintain your bed please** give immediate notice to a board member (info on [www.whitefishcommunitygarden.com](http://www.whitefishcommunitygarden.com)). The bed may be reassigned to the next person on the wait list. No refunds after May 15.

**Contract + Opening Day info** will be emailed + posted on our website. It's usually in the area of 4/24, but you can work in your bed once soil is warm enough to plant spring crops.

**New members** will be contacted by the membership team when their bed is assigned.

**New members** are expected to participate in orientation - our team will contact you with details.

**Carry in/carry out policy:** gardeners are responsible for taking all personal + gardening materials offsite for disposal in their personal garbage. This includes diseased plant materials – DO NOT put diseased or pest infested materials into our compost bins! Please bring trash bags for your garden waste.

**Gardeners are responsible for the care of their bed + weeding & chipping** pathways surrounding their bed. Respect adjacent gardeners by pulling weeds before they seed & spread. Keep pathways clear of personal items for gardener access with a hose, wheelbarrow, etc. + vining crops that block aisle access.

**Need help caring for your bed while on vacation?** Post a sign in your bed with dates you need help, ask a neighboring member, or contact a board member.

**Gardeners are expected to clean/rinse all tools before replacing them in or near the shed.** Replace wheelbarrows, etc. where taken from. Do not keep tools from the shed in your bed – these tools are for every member's use.

**Garden beds must be planted by June 10:** after the 10<sup>th</sup> a board member will contact the gardener to inquire if assistance is needed or if the bed will be reassigned.

**Trellis & sculptures:** any tall crops, trellises or sculptures must be planted/installed in a way that does not shade another garden bed. Ask a board member if you're not sure of your installation – take a look at our typical “straight” trellises on the north ends of beds. They are effective + don't shade adjacent beds.

**Practice smart watering:** especially during the hottest & driest months, it's good for your plants & our watering system to water smartly, either in morning or late afternoon/early evening. During the hottest part of the day the water evaporates quickly. Watering the soil – not the leaves of plants – moistens the soil & gets water to the roots.

**Turn off the water + watering wand lever + coil hose after watering.**

**We're an organic garden community:** please practice only organic growing practices.

**Park on the pavement only, not on the grass.**

**Please bring your compost to our bins, but no meat or dairy!** It's best for compost for eggshells to be crushed prior to putting in bin, otherwise large chunks of shell do not decompose fast enough prior to compost being added to a bed.

**End of season work day info will be emailed + posted on website.** This is usually mid-October.

**End of season practices:** gardeners are expected to clean their bed by removing all material by 10/15 except for over-winter crops (garlic, carrots, etc.). After 10/15 vegetables left in beds may be harvested by volunteers & donated to the local food bank.

**Save the dates!**

**Tuesday, 3/1** Membership agreement & fee deadline to keep your 2021 bed

**Sunday, 4/24** Opening workday from 11-2 to get the garden ready to grow by completing chores on our “to do” list (if this date changes you will get an email update).

**Sunday, 10/16 or 23** End of season workday from 11-2 to get the garden read to over-winter by completing chores on our “to do” list.

**TO KEEP YOUR 2021 BED MAIL THIS FORM + \$50 CHECK MADE OUT TO “WHITEFISH COMMUNITY GARDEN” MAILED FOR OUR RECEIPT NO LATER THAN MARCH 1 TO PO BOX 5415, WHITEFISH MT 59937.**

**NEW GARDENERS MAIL THIS FORM + FEE AS SOON AS YOU HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED A GARDEN BED TO PO BOX 5415, WHITEFISH MT 59937. YOU WILL BE CONTACTED REGARDING NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION.**



2021 bed number if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

Gardener name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Gardener mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_