

Hazelwood Urban Ag Team: R Garden Rules for Plot Allotment



🔑 Terms and Conditions:

1. There is no fee, but we collect a deposit of \$10.00 from each gardener. This is your “buy in” and you will get your ten bucks back when you return the bed and gate key in good order at the end of the year (or years). These deposits will be held in trust by HI’s Treasurer as indicated below (see reverse). Bed allotment assignments and availability can be viewed [online here](#). Membership with HI is not required, but we encourage you to join if you aren’t already a member!

- a. returning a borrowed bed in Good Condition means: cleared of all crop debris and weeds, mulched with leaves or straw. (illust.1)
- b. forfeit of deposit, should it be deemed necessary, may be effected in the case of the following:
 1. abandoned bed, noxious weeds gone to seed, and the Garden Manager has to clean up the mess.
 2. more than two lost keys, more than three broken tools
 3. unforeseen shenanigans as juried by consensus of Gardeners and the Team.
- c. dispute or appeal finds venue before the chair of the HI Planning Committee, the HI Director, or other Human Resources officer.

2. We welcome gardeners with any skill level (or none!), from any of Pittsburgh’s neighborhoods and nearby communities, but our first responsibility is to provide for residents in Hazelwood. Bed space is provided first-come basis, all applications are reviewed yearly. In the event that demand for bed allotments exceeds supply at this site, residents of 15207 shall get first pick in order of residential proximity, and efforts to establish new gardens in neighborhoods where there is greater Demand shall be supported by the Team. Our long-term vision is to have a community garden in each “district” of our neighborhood, strategically located for convenience and proximity, as demand grows.

🔑 Garden Plot Care and Maintenance:

- 1) Planting can begin as early as March, and you should be all set up for Summer by Memorial Day weekend; Fall crops by August 2. Plots not claimed or active by June 15 will be sowed with a Cover Crop. Cleanup by December 15th, exceptions for Season Extensions such as row-cover, overwintering crops such as garlic or parsnips, etc. No old windows for cold-frames please (lead paint!)
- 2) Keep pathways clear of debris. Garden paths may not be altered. Plans for revising the layout in future years are under discussion by the UrbanAg Team.
- 3) **Prevent weeds from going to seed.** Promptly remove weeds to the compost area designated for such materials. If a plot becomes unkempt, you may receive notice to clean it up within 2 weeks. If the plot is not cleaned up in that time, the plot may be re-assigned and could forfeit the Deposit. (exception: Perennials Bed)
- 5) Gardeners may not grow trees or woody, invasive, toxic or illegal plants. Consult with Garden Manager before planting perennials. No mints in the beds! Please see the following list of invasive plants: <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/plants/invasiveplants/index.htm>
- 7) Be considerate of others! Keep your lush abundance from overgrowing public pathways or your neighbors’ space. Plant tall crops where they won’t shade neighboring plots. Train your vines and climbers, pole beans etc.
- 8) pick only your own crops unless given permission.
- 9) harvest produce as it matures. Neglected surplus can attract woodchucks and other garden pests.
 - 9.a) City code prohibits the sale of produce on-site. Excess harvest may be sold at the Summer Marketplace, or Dylamato’s Market, or donated to 412 Food Rescue or local food pantry. *“Eat what you can, Can what you can’t!”*
- 10) Only Organic fertilizers and insect control are permitted. Please see the list of permitted organic products/materials: <http://www.omri.org/omri-lists/download>
- 11) No smoking in the garden area. Tobacco in cigarettes contains a virus that can affect tomatoes, potatoes, and eggplants. Discarded butts get picked up by songbirds, used as nesting material, and then the baby birds die from nicotine poisoning. No Smoking in the Greenhouse! **Fire Hazard!** Wash hands before touching any tomatoes or aforementioned crops. Consider quitting.
- 13) Do not plant any genetically modified seeds or plants. Consult with the Team before planting Corn, Soy, Squash, or other open-pollinated crop that might be grown by a neighboring Gardener. Blessed are the seed-savers! Gardeners are encouraged to coordinate with one another on any open-pollinated crop varieties to greatest reasonable extent.

🔑 Shared Resources and Common Spaces:

From time to time the Garden may be used by HI for workshops and other public events. Gardeners wishing to arrange an event, public or private, please coordinate with the Team.

A. Water

1. Conserve rainwater at all times. Pray for rain, before and after.
2. Take only your fair share of limited water resources, leave some for others!
3. Be observant, look for maintenance issues in our collection systems (disconnected downspouts, leaks etc). Get familiar with the setup and make easy repairs if possible, or report any maintenance issues to the Garden Manager ASAP.

B. Greenhouse, Shed, and Garden Tools

1. Return garden tools to their storage area, clean and ready for use.
2. Keep shed and greenhouse area tidy.
3. Please do not take tools off the premises for any reason. [or, Register with Manager 2 weeks in advance to borrow tools offsite]





C. Compost

1. Put in more than you take out.
2. Share with others, don't take more than your fair share!
3. Collect bags of leaves in the fall, for mulch and added volume.

D. Orchards and Such

The fruit trees and other perennial plantings are held in Common as per the wishes of the Tree Planting Foundation, and may be for such community events as cider pressings, or other such community events. Eat fresh fruit and enjoy! The hops are used for a fundraiser, in partnership with a local Brewery, so please take minimal amounts for personal use. (rhizomes available by request for a \$5 contribution to the Team!) Look for winter workshops on orcharding and pruning etc., volunteers welcome to help care for these community assets.



Miscellanea et Minutiae:

- 16) The Urban Ag Team does a Group Seed Order each year with Fedco Seeds cooperative. Anyone wishing to order seeds may get as much or as little as they like, and get the discount calculated by the sum total of the group's order, as per Fedco's Group Order Guidelines. (fedcoseeds.com) Typical deadline for seeds is early January. We can also do trees and bulbs, order in the fall for spring delivery.
- 17) Park cars only in designated areas. Drive compassionately and mindfully at all times. Walk, bike, bus, or carpool whenever possible.
- 18) Pick up litter along the road and around the fence line, sort recyclables for collection.
- 19) Children are welcome when accompanied and supervised by an adult. Look for more children's activities at the Library Patio Garden, as well as the Center of Life Church!
- 20) Spend one hour a week on community improvements: weed the perennials bed, trim around the trees, turn the compost pile, tidy the Greenhouse, pick up roadside litter, etc.
- 21) Animals are discouraged in the garden area, though clumps of dog hair can help repel garden predators. Dogs must be on a leash. Open season year-round on Woodchucks and rabbits, no bag limit.
- 22) The last person to leave the garden area please ensure that all locks and gate latches are secured.
- 23) Attend the meetings of the Urban Ag Team whenever possible, stay in touch with the Group via FB or our email list (see website for links). Help promote workshops, harvest parties, and other Events.



Signature of Acknowledgement and Certification of Deposit and Receipt:

- I have read these rules and agree to abide by these guidelines.
- I understand that gardening brings the possibility of injury, be it a shard of glass hidden in the soil that cuts a finger, sunburn or heat stroke, or a sore back at the end of a day of digging and weeding. I accept responsibility for my behavior and will not file frivolous lawsuits.

Please return the signed document to Hazelwood Initiatives office, attn. Garden Manager

\$10 deposit returned • HI member: y n new renew \$ _____



Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Telephone:		
Email:		
Signature:	Date:	Lot Number:

volunteer opportunities: indicate your skills and interests!

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|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Grass cutting | Events Planning | Internet skills | Garden Mentor |
| Shed/Greenhouse Repairs | Compost maintenance | Perimeter maintenance | Pruning |
| Phone bank coordinator | Food bank coordinator | Pathway maintenance | |
| Construction | Steering committee | Seed Saver/Variety Steward | Other |