



Eagle Ridge Community Garden Rules

Rental Information

1. Garden beds can be rented by visiting the City of Lake Stevens' ("City") [website](#).
2. Garden beds may not be sublet and must be actively gardened by the person who reserved it and/or their immediate family ("Gardener") unless an agreement is formed with the City. The Gardener is allowed to bring guests with them to the garden but must always accompany them. If the Gardener is an organization, including businesses, clubs, or not-for-profits, the organization must sign and adhere to the City's *Agreement For Organizations*.
3. Maximum of two bed rentals per person/household.
4. Community garden beds can be rented on an annual basis. The rental period will begin March 15th and end on March 14th of the following calendar year.
 - a) Garden beds are \$50 per year (\$25 for ADA) and will not be prorated if reserved mid-year.
 - b) Gardeners can end their rental early by notifying the Department in writing. Beds not maintained for 30 days by the Gardener will be considered abandoned and result in an end of the rental agreement. No refunds will be issued for early termination.
 - c) For garden plots that are abandoned or not returned clean of vegetation or other debris, a fee will be assessed and charged to the gardener. A courtesy 15-day notice will be emailed to the gardener prior to assessing fees to allow for correction.
 - d) Gardeners must return the bed to the City clean of vegetation and other debris.
 - e) Gardeners can renew their current rental for the next season as early as February 1st. To reserve the same garden bed, you must renew and pay by March 1st.
5. The City wishes for all garden beds to be utilized. When garden beds remain unreserved after June 15th, the City may deem them for use by the Lake Stevens Food Bank, or Rule 3 will be modified to maximize up to four bed rentals per person/household.
6. Anybody wishing to volunteer to help grow or harvest food for the Food Bank beds must contact the City and become a registered volunteer. Once you become a registered volunteer, the City will put you in contact with the Eagle Ridge Adopt-A-Park Liaison ("Garden Liaison").
7. Accessible garden beds are raised to accommodate individuals with mobility impairments. ADA beds will only be reserved to individuals who require these accommodations due to a disability. (When these are the only remaining beds that are available for rental, they can be released to the general public.)
8. The code for the garden shed and gate is for use only by the Gardener and may not be shared with anyone outside of your immediate household. Sharing the code could result in terminating your agreement with the City for renting a garden bed, and future use of the area. You must lock the gates and garden shed when leaving and change the numbers so the code is not showing.

Additional Rules & Plot Use

9. Gardens must be neatly maintained and free of weeds.

10. You may only tend the garden plot that you, or your immediate family, rent.
11. Produce from your plot may not be sold. Excess food can be shared with neighbors, food pantries, shelters, etc.
12. Pick only crops from your own plot unless a "Harvest Me" flag is posted.
13. The Flag System can be used to ask your fellow gardeners for help when you will be on vacation or if have too much produce. Flags can be found in the garden shed and can be placed in your bed to communicate with other.
 - a) "Water Me" – A blue flag indicates a need to help with watering (typically used when you will be out of town on vacation.)
 - b) "Harvest Me" – A red flag indicates that anyone may take ripe produce from your garden bed, to use for personal use or donate to the local food bank.
14. No signage, including banners or advertising, may be posted. Each bed may have a single wooden garden stake, no more than 1 in. x 2 in. x 2 ft, with the Gardener's name, or family name, on it to identify their bed.
15. Do not use non-organic fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides. Please contact the City or the Garden Liaison if you have questions about what you may or may not use in your plot.
16. Rapidly spreading plants such as mint, lemon balm, and cane fruits (blackberries, raspberries) are not allowed to be planted in beds. Prune strawberries to keep shoots from spreading outside of the beds.
17. The garden shed is a community space. All items stored in this shed are available for use by individuals renting a garden bed (except for the space marked for "Food Bank Garden Items") provided they are cleaned and return. No personal items may be stored. If you leave items in here, they will be considered a donation to the City.
18. Seeds that are left in the shed may be planted in the garden beds at Eagle Ridge but may not be taken off the property.
19. Be considerate of neighboring garden plots when planting tall crops and avoid shading other beds.
20. Weed control on pathways and common work areas belongs to everyone. Please maintain the paths around your bed, pulling weeds or adding wood chips as needed.
21. Garden weeds and other plant waste should be placed in the compost area provided by the garden.
22. Conserve water and remember to turn off the hoses, coil them, and return them when you are done using them.
23. Temporary structures for height or hothouse plants are allowed.
24. Tires are not allowed to be used at Eagle Ridge.
25. Children are welcome at the garden but must be supervised at all times.
26. Smoking and loud noises (e.g., radios without headphones) are prohibited at the garden.
27. The Port-A-Potty is for your convenience. Please be respectful and keep it clean!

Violation of the Eagle Ridge Community Garden Rules will subject the Gardener to a warning and/or possible revocation of the Gardener's right to a garden bed depending upon the nature of the violation.

Questions and comments can be directed to the Parks and Recreation Department by emailing Parks@LakeStevensWA.gov or calling (425) 622-9406.