

# Worcester Street Community Garden

[www.worcesterstreetgarden.org](http://www.worcesterstreetgarden.org)

## Membership Rules & Regulations 2018

The Worcester Street Community Garden (WSCG) is an enthusiastic gardening community located in Boston's beautiful South End neighborhood. We are one of 55 community gardens throughout the City of Boston affiliated with the Trustees of Reservations (TTOR), a Massachusetts-based non-profit land conservation and historic preservation trust (visit [www.thetrustees.org](http://www.thetrustees.org) for more information on TTOR). WSCG has over 130 plots and is located on Worcester Street between Columbus Avenue and Tremont Avenue.

### I. The Leadership Committee

<b>Garden Coordinators</b> <i>Catherine Mesner &amp; Mike Bartlett</i>	<b>Treasurer</b> <i>David Chastain</i>
<b>Communications</b> <i>Mike Wilson &amp; Margaret Kelsey</i>	<b>Membership</b> <i>Sonia Tan &amp; Jonah Goska</i>
<b>Social Committee</b> <i>TBD</i>	<b>Special Projects</b> <i>Brendan Riley</i>
To contact us, please email <a href="mailto:worcesterstreetcommunitygarden@gmail.com">worcesterstreetcommunitygarden@gmail.com</a> or, if urgent, call: Membership Coordinator Jonah Goska <b>(508) 308-4994</b>	

The Garden's Leadership Committee is comprised of active Garden members who volunteer to support the smooth running of the Garden. Please contact us if you would like to get involved with the Leadership Committee -- we are always looking for new volunteers!

### II. Garden Plot Rules:

- Potential gardeners must complete a plot application form to be considered for a plot (see [worcesterstreetgarden.org](http://worcesterstreetgarden.org) for the online application). WSCG typically has a waitlist for new plots.
- Garden membership is restricted to residents of Boston.
- Plots are assigned to new gardeners on a first come, first served basis.
- One plot per household.
- Plots are non-transferable (i.e., plots must be returned to the Garden if a member gives up his/her membership).
- Members in good standing (i.e., current on dues and in compliance with the rules of Garden) keep their plot year-to-year for as long as desired.
- Newly assigned plots are 10 x 10 feet, nominal size.
- Grandfathering of plots is a policy set by each TTOR garden.
- Returning active gardeners who request to change plots will receive priority over new gardeners in plot assignments.

### III. Annual Dues and Fees:

- \$65 per plot per year (\$20 for gardeners claiming a hardship, such as unemployment, granted in the discretion of the Leadership Committee).

- \$25 fine *per session* is assessed for those who do not participate in the annual Spring or Fall Clean-Ups (2 hours of work required at each Clean-Up). Fine is due with fees for the following year.
- All dues and fines are to be paid to the Treasurer by **May 1<sup>st</sup>**.
- Gardeners whose dues are not received by **May 15<sup>th</sup>** may be asked to surrender their plots.

#### IV. **Dues Payment Information:**

Please make checks payable to **WSCG** or **Worcester Street Community Garden**.

Mail to Treasurer:  
**David Chastain**  
 1 Wellington St. #4  
 Boston, MA 02118

#### V. **Member Participation Rules:**

- Two (2) hours of participation by every gardener are required at the Spring and Fall Clean-Ups.
- If you are unable to attend a Clean-Up, you may send a delegate in your place, at the discretion of the Garden Coordinator. Contact Coordinator in advance to arrange.
- If you fail to show up for the Spring and/or Fall Clean-Up, you will be assessed a fine of \$25 per missed session.
- Over the summer, participation in a monthly Clean-Up/maintenance session is also encouraged, and can be mandatory at the discretion of the Leadership Committee. The dates for these evening sessions are posted on the website as well as in the Calendar of Events sent to all members. These sessions cover some of our regular projects, like spreading stone dust and maintenance on the common areas.

#### VI. **Garden Maintenance Rules:**

- Plots must be ready for gardening (show spring prep/activity/planting) by **June 1<sup>st</sup>**. If there is no evidence of activity by this time, the plot may be reassigned.
- Maintain your plot to ensure that it is not overgrown or otherwise neglected.
- Keep plot boundaries and adjacent paths weeded.
- Remove all trash from your plot and surrounding paths. Trash must be deposited in the dumpsters near the shed, or removed from the Garden.
- Fencing and garden structures must be of natural materials (wood or stone) and **may not exceed 3 feet high**. Use of other materials is allowed only if purchased from a garden center. No storage of furniture or containers permitted in the plots.
- Plantings should not compromise the safety of the Garden by the nature of their height, material or density. Please be considerate of your neighbors, particularly with respect to shade cast by your plants.
- Gardens must be prepared for winter by **December 1<sup>st</sup>**.

#### VII. **Garden Culture:**

- Do not pick from other plots. Theft of anything will not be tolerated. You will lose your gardening privileges and your plot will be reassigned.
- Pets are not permitted in the Garden.
- Pet burials are not allowed in the Garden.

- No drugs or other illegal activities are allowed in the Garden.
- No alcohol or smoking is allowed in the garden, with the exception of Garden sanctioned events.
- No Garden member may be discriminated against due to his/her race, religion, gender, age, income level, sexual orientation or gender representation.

**VIII. Calendar of Events:**

- Each April, we will host our Annual Meeting, where we will collect dues, provide an overview of the year ahead, and distribute a calendar of events for the upcoming season.
- We host the mandatory Spring Clean-Up on a Saturday in May, and the mandatory Fall Clean-Up on a Saturday in November.
- Our Social Committee organizes monthly Garden Gatherings throughout the summer.
- We host monthly Clean-Ups throughout the summer (participation can be mandatory at discretion of Leadership Committee, upon advance notice to members).

**IX. Governance:**

The duties of the volunteer Leadership Committee include the enforcing of these rules. It has the authority to address conflicts, and the authority to refuse a plot to a gardener or to dismiss a current gardener. The following actions will be taken if gardeners do not follow the rules of Garden Participation, Maintenance or Culture:

1. A red flag will be placed in the plot of any gardener who neglects his or her plot or who acts in a manner inappropriate to the community. The gardener will have one week to respond to the flag notice of non-compliance and rectify the issue(s) by contacting the Garden Coordinator. The Leadership Committee may also attempt to contact the member by email or phone.
2. If after two weeks there is no response or action, the plot may be reassigned at the discretion of the Leadership Committee.

*Please Note: A gardener with extenuating circumstances that prevent the adherence to the Garden rules must communicate with the Garden Coordinator.*

**These Garden Rules must be signed and returned to the Leadership Committee by each new Garden member. Your signature indicates you understand and will abide by these Rules. Please sign two copies. Return one copy when you pay your dues. One copy is for your files.**

_____	_____	_____
Gardener ( <i>please print name</i> )	Signature	Date

_____	_____	_____
Gardener ( <i>please print name</i> )	Signature	Date