

Wildlands Trust Community Garden

Newsletter- #1

Welcome gardeners! Thank you for signing up to be part of the Wildlands Trust organic garden.

My name is Elaine Pollack, the garden coordinator. I will be on site at scheduled times (TBD) and can always be reached by email: communitygarden@wildlandstrust.org. You may leave me a note on the bulletin board just inside the door of the Wildlands Trust building during office hours, weekdays 9am-5pm. The offices beyond the foyer are for Wildlands employees only. Please be respectful.

We do not have a storage shed at the moment so you will have to transport your own tools.

Suggested tools to get you started: a shovel, hoe, garden rake, hand tools, a 5-gallon bucket (to hold hand tools and weeds), gloves, twine, plant labels, permanent marker, clippers or scissors, tomato cages and other supports. These items can be found at Job Lot, Christmas Tree Shoppes, Home Depot, Lowes or your local hardware store.

When choosing what you are going to plant, please remember that this is a seasonal lease and you must stay within your plot. Therefore plants that are perennial such as strawberries, asparagus etc. and sprawling plants, such as pumpkins and some squashes, are not good choices. Tall crops such as corn also are not a good choice as they might block your neighbor's sun. If these are crops that you really want to grow, please see me and I will try to assign you an appropriate plot.

Information on organic gardening can be found at the library and on the internet. I have two books that I have pulled out to read: Carrots Love Tomatoes (companion gardening) and Rodale's Encyclopedia of Organic Gardening. I also have found an organic gardening manual at www.eagleheightsgardens.org/

There are many websites that can help you plan the layout of your garden as well as how much to plant for your family. Check out *Gardener's Supply*, *Better Homes and Gardens* and *Real Simple*.

I am anxious to get out and start planting. I am happy to share my knowledge of gardening, but I also look forward to learning from all of you. We have many returning gardeners who are a wealth of knowledge and are always willing to share information.

As I gather information and resources I will forward them to all of you. Please feel free to share your resources and questions with me as well.

I'm looking forward to meeting all of you! Let's hope for lots of sun, bunnies that aren't too hungry, a wonderful harvest and no blight.

Elaine Pollack