



# Plot Agreement

## 2016

### Community Plots: General Information

Garden plots, which are about 4' x 12' and 14" deep, are available to community organizations, groups, and individuals for a rental fee of **\$40 per year**. Basic tools are available for your use. Gardeners (also called "plotters") need to supply their own seeds and starts. We will have soil fertility materials available for sale at the farm.

Plotters (individuals and groups) are **required to attend an orientation session** that will take place on the farm in the spring.

Plotters need to commit to tending their plots **at least once a week**. Groups and organizations should have at least **three** dedicated members tending the garden on a **weekly** basis.

You will receive the **weekly updates** via email. **Please take the time to read these**; they will contain important information about your plot and the farm in general!

**If you will be away** or can't come to the farm for a week or more, please arrange to have someone tend your plot (water, weed, harvest). It is really important to keep your plot maintained, as neglect encourages theft, creates food waste, and the spread of weeds. **Please come weekly to tend your plot**. If you're having a problem with this, please let the Plot Coordinator know (in advance when possible): [urbanfarmers@partnersforcare.ca](mailto:urbanfarmers@partnersforcare.ca)

Virtually all of the farm work is done by volunteers. Forgive us our imperfections, and please help by keeping the **path around your plot free of weeds** and volunteering when you can.

Plotters are encouraged to attend workshops, celebrations, and other farm events as promoted through the Weekly Update. Plotters are also asked to **drop-in volunteer a minimum of 1 hour per month**, for a total of 6 hours through the season. This can be done daily between 3-6 with Hosts, or with staff during weekdays. Our goal is to grow a strong sense of community while working together on regular maintenance of the farm.

The seasonal fee is **\$40.00** per plot, paid at the beginning of the season. This helps cover the garden infrastructure and administration. We have kept the seasonal fee low in order to ensure the plots are as accessible as possible, however, if you feel it is reasonable for you or your group to contribute more, please consider contributing to Knock Foodbank CSA.

Please join our Facebook page and refer to our website for more information:  
[http://partnersforcare.ca/urban\\_farm](http://partnersforcare.ca/urban_farm)

## Plot Building Parameters:

In concern for your safety and the safety of those around you this season, please be aware of the plot parameters at Common Roots Urban Farm. The mounded soil plots, and those built from lumber as currently existing are acceptable. Should you choose to build a plot casting that is different, you are required to e-mail [urbanfarmers@partnersforcare.ca](mailto:urbanfarmers@partnersforcare.ca). Our main concern is safety, therefore we request that you submit a brief document describing in detail what you would like to build, how, and the materials you will be using.

Plotters may use the bricks to make a border around their plot, however the bricks must be **mortar free**. The mortar can be knocked off the bricks with a mallet or hammer.

## Code of Conduct

- Be positive stewards of the land, tools and structures.
- Only nibble from the 'Nibble' plots.
- No smoking.
- Dogs on leash please.
- Smile, you're on live webcam!
- Exercise care, diligence, safety, and skill to the best of your ability.
- Treat everyone with dignity and respect.
- Collaborate with others and celebrate diversity.
- Use at your own risk.

## Core Values

**Sustainable/Regenerative:** Thinking seven generations into the future, we steward the landscape in a way that promotes health for humans and the natural world.

**Emergent:** We are a learning organization. We question, research, listen, and respond at every opportunity. We learn from our mistakes, successes, each other, and the community beyond.

**Collaboration:** We are a community project with many volunteers, few staff, and many partners, born from an in-depth engagement process. Our goal is to increase the capacity of all participants and working towards a mutual goal.

**Openness:** We respect each other's processes, diversity, and well-being. We work with thoughtfulness, heartfulness, and mindfulness.

**Accessibility:** We are land available to all interested participants with accessible structures and processes.

## Community Plots Agreement

Common Roots Urban Farm asks individuals and participating groups to agree to the following:

- attend one orientation session on the farm prior to planting my/our plot.
- keep the plot planted and maintained throughout the growing season.
- respect the Code of Conduct, (see above).
- volunteer a minimum of 1 hour per month, 6 hours per year on general farm tasks.
- provide the Plot Coordinator with up-to-date contact information as it changes.
- participate in the fall cleanup of the garden.
- plant tall crops only where they will not shade neighboring plots.
- pick only our own crops unless given permission by another plot user.
- not use inorganic insecticides, pesticides, or weed repellents.
- gain approval from the staff before using any fertilizer, spray, or other input.
- if contacted five times within a month without replying, our plot will be re-assigned.
- notify the PC immediately if the plot must be abandoned.
- weed and tidy the plot and surrounding pathways.
- keep trash and litter out of our plot and from adjacent pathways and fences.
- respect farm watering schedules and needs.
- ensure that minors involved have parental consent to participate.
- comply with any CRUF policies or procedures
- We are responsible for our employees, volunteers, participants, and guests. We will not knowingly permit any of them to act in breach of CRUF policies or procedures.
- I/We understand that the Common Roots Urban Farm operators, staff, and owners of the land are not responsible for the actions of my group.
- I/WE AGREE TO HOLD HARMLESS THE COMMON ROOTS URBAN FARM OPERATORS AND STAFF, PARTNERS FOR CARE AND THE NOVA SCOTIA HEALTH AUTHORITY FOR ANY LIABILITY, DAMAGE, LOSS OR CLAIM THAT OCCURS IN CONNECTION WITH USE OF THE COMMON ROOTS URBAN FARM BY US OR ANY OF OUR EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS, PARTICIPANTS OR GUESTS. I/We release the Common Roots Urban Farm, Partners for Care and the Nova Scotia Health Authority, their Directors, servants, agents or employees from any claims, demands, damages, actions or causes arising out of or in consequence of any loss, injury or damage to my/our person or property arisen from our participation in the Common Roots Urban Farm.

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

**Plot Number:**

**Individual/Organization Name:**

**Name to appear on plot marker:**

**Primary contact: Name, phone, & email:**

**Contact 2 (for groups):**

**Contact 3 (for groups):**

**What day(s) of the week do you anticipate working on the farm?**

**Spoken languages** [This is relevant because we have a diverse group of gardeners on the farm, including international students and new Canadians.]

**Do you have any skills or knowledge you wish to share, or workshop you would be interested in leading?**

**At what point during the week would a workshop you are interested in be best for you?**

**Do you have any special needs or necessary considerations to facilitate your participation?**

**Would you be interested in building a raised frame for your plot at cost?**

***We agree to all points in the Community Plots Agreement.***

**Signature:**

**Date:**