

GROW Gardener Pledge

- All GROW sites are public spaces and need to remain tidy. Gardeners are required to weed in and around their boxes by June 1. Any boxes not tended to by this date will be considered for reassignment. (Gardeners will be contacted and given 7 days to tend to their garden. Reassignment occurs when no action is taken.)
- GROW is built on a goal of growing organic food.
 - In greenhouses, use only seeds, plants, soils, etc. supplied or approved by AWARE
 - In outdoor boxes, only organic, non-GMO seeds are to be used, no bear attractants.
 - No **chemical** fertilizers, pesticides, weed repellents or plastic mulches

(GROW coordinator and ambassadors will treat greenhouse boxes with kelp as a good source of micronutrients and trace minerals twice during the season.)

- **Bear attractants** must be kept out of GROW boxes at all times:
 - **Greenhouse Boxes:** only provided seeds to be planted.
 - **Outdoor Boxes:** No corn, carrots, beets, potatoes, fruits, berries, sunflowers, or pumpkins.
 - **All boxes:** No fish fertilizer, bone meal, blood meal or chicken manure. (Visit www.bearsmart.com/live/managing-attractants/ for more info.)
- Please compost all organic garden material (weeds, pruning offcuts, etc.) in the compost bins on site and trim to 3 inches or less to assist with faster decomposition. Food scraps are prohibited because we don't want bears! (Note: Clearing your box at the end of season is a requirement of the program, if you can't get it done for any reason, ask for help from a fellow gardener or contact the coordinator.)
- Keep plants from growing into walkways or other plots. (Crowding/shading plants e.g. sunflowers, may need to be trimmed if affecting other GROWers experience).
- Planting structures must be safe, avoid sharp edges or protruding supports that could cause injury. Plastic netting is not permitted at any location as this is deadly for birds and other critters. Structures will be permitted in the outdoor garden if they are within the GROW/municipal guidelines to allow everyone maximum sunshine:
 - Cheakamus gardeners may use open structures with a max height of 5ft or less (i.e. - trellises, growing frames etc.)
 - Cheakamus gardeners may use closed structures with a max height of 3ft or less (i.e. - tunnels, windbreaks etc.)
- Pack out all garbage. Under no circumstance can we have bear attractants or garbage left on site. Pets need to be leashed or tied up at a designated hitching post.
- Please, no smoking in the garden areas at any time. Smokers, wash your hands before gardening to limit the spread of tobacco virus, deadly to tomatoes!
- No fire on site(s) at any time (enclosed / camp stove / or any other).
- All gardeners are asked to contribute to the success of this program by volunteering a minimum of 4 hours per box per season. Volunteer activities will be included in biweekly GROW emails along with a volunteer tracking form.
- Gardeners unable to volunteer are required to pay a \$30 contribution to the GROW maintenance fund at checkout. Gardeners failing to volunteer / pay maintenance contribution by the end of the season will not be permitted a space in the GROW program the following year.

AWARE reserves the right to amend the rules and regulations should an issue affecting the betterment of the program as a whole arises.