



HIGH COUNTRY CONSERVATION CENTER

2019 Garden Fees & Rules and Regulations

*The Community Garden program is a local food program of the High Country Conservation Center (HC3). The Rules and Regulations apply to ALL four of our gardens including [Nancy's](#), [Leslie's](#), [Breckenridge](#), and [Dillon Valley Elementary](#). **Some gardens may have additional rules and requirements, so please check with individual garden steering committees.***

APPLICATIONS/PAYMENT

Garden plot fees go towards the overall maintenance of the community garden, water bills, and other garden expenses (community tools, liability insurance, garden coordination, and general operation). Plot fees do not include the cost of seeds, organic soil amendments, approved organic fertilizers, or plant starts for your garden plot. Gardeners are responsible for the planting, pest control, and fertilization of their own plots.

ALLOCATION OF GARDEN PLOTS

Garden plots are first allocated to plot holders returning to the same garden from the previous year and who completed their required volunteer hours or garden shifts. Remaining plots are allocated to new plot holders based on application date and plot size availability.

WAITLIST

If you are on the waitlist, you will be notified if/when a plot becomes available. Failure to comply with the rules, or turning down a plot offered will result in removal from the waitlist. Potential gardeners can reapply to the waitlist, but your position on the wait list will not be saved.

GARDENER'S RESPONSIBILITIES:

Volunteer Hours and Garden Shifts: All of the gardens have required volunteer hours or garden shifts. These requirements apply to both paid and sponsored plots. ***Garden shifts apply to Nancy's Community Garden only.*** Volunteer hours are defined as HC3 approved projects or opportunities, above and beyond maintenance and care of individual plots. This includes but is not limited to HC3 Zero-Waste and fundraiser events, CSA volunteer days, Grow to Share logistics, and more. Nancy's garden shifts refer to greenhouse opening and closing shifts. Nancy's gardeners are required to attend an orientation to ensure understanding of garden shifts.

All other volunteer hours must be completed through HC3 approved projects and garden work days. This means that plot holders may complete their required volunteer hours at any of the gardens including steering committee meetings, HC3 community events, garden projects and work days, and the Summit CSA. [Volunteer opportunities](#) will regularly be posted on the [events calendar](#). Plot holders who do not fulfill their volunteer hours or garden shifts forfeit their deposits. Plot holders will be responsible for tracking volunteer hours and reporting them directly to [Hayden van Andel](#), HC3 Community Programs Coordinator. Plot holders who do not complete their required volunteer hours will forfeit their deposit and right of refusal for 2020.

Nancy's Garden ONLY – Garden shifts apply to Nancy's Community Garden only. Nancy's gardeners are required to attend an orientation to ensure understanding of garden shifts. An orientation schedule will be posted on [HC3's website](#) and communicated to gardeners who have submitted an application to Nancy's.

Leslie's Garden ONLY - All gardeners are required to participate in at least 5 hours of garden work per season at Leslie's. The other 5 hours may be at other approved HC3 events. If the plot holder does not fulfill this requirement, they will forfeit their deposit.

Planting: Plots must be planted by Father's day (weather permitting). Any unplanted plots will be re-assigned to the next gardener on the waiting list and the plot fee forfeited or the plot will go towards the Grow to Share food donation program. Gardeners may start planting as soon as they wish AS SOON AS PAYMENT IS RECEIVED. However, the date the water is turned on fluctuates by season and per the garden. All gardeners will be notified by email about specific planting schedules and requirements. **Nancy's Garden Only** – All seedlings must be inspected by the Greenhouse Caretaker before planting to make sure they are pest-free.

Mandatory Work Days: Throughout the season, some gardens may schedule mandatory work days as needed.

Cleanliness: It is the responsibility of all gardeners to maintain the common space as well as their own plot. Personal garden debris and trash must be removed from the garden area by gardeners. Please do not leave plastic pots, watering cans, jugs, stakes, or trash anywhere in the garden. Weeding, mulching and trash removal of the common areas will be a community responsibility. Please help if you see that something needs to be done.

Season Extenders: Season extenders such as small hoop houses will be allowed in the garden only after materials have been APPROVED by Garden Steering Committees. Rules on the type of materials allowed for season extenders will apply. No unapproved plastic, signage, stakes, posts, garden art, or decorations will be allowed in the garden! Cost and maintenance of approved season extenders will be the responsibility of the plot holder. If gardeners use unapproved materials in the garden, HC3 staff and garden committee members may remove these materials at the expense of plot holders.

Harvesting Your Plot: We strongly encourage plot holders to not let food go to waste. If a plot holder is unable to harvest their plot or take advantage of the food they are growing, please contact your garden steering committee or [Hayden van Andel](#), HC3 Community Programs Coordinator to facilitate food donations to the Grow to Share program benefiting Summit County WIC and FIRC. You may also be contacted by garden steering committee members if your plot needs to be harvested.

Fertilizing and Pest Control: Synthetic and chemical fertilizers and pesticides will not be allowed in the community gardens or greenhouses (i.e. NO Miracle Grow!). If you are unclear if your product is considered “organic”, please contact HC3 at 970-668-5703.

End of Season cleaning: End of the season cleaning will include removal of your plants including roots. The soil and plant debris will be composted. All plot holders are required to clean out plots at the end of the season – no exceptions! If plot holders fail to clean out their garden plot by the end of the season, plot holder may lose their deposit, be assessed a fee and/or lose the garden plot for the following year.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Children are welcome in the garden. They must be supervised at all times by an adult. Children must respect the boundaries between plots and the property of others.
- Be water wise. Roll up hoses NEATLY and make sure water is turned off after use.
- Please help by pulling weeds in walkways and picking up trash in garden common areas.
- It is your responsibility to notify us of any address, phone or email changes. Gardeners should check the [HC3 garden webpage](#) for garden updates and announcements.

NOT ALLOWED

- Synthetic and chemical pesticides or herbicides may not be used.
- Pets are NOT ALLOWED in the gardens, leashed or unleashed.
- Any illegal activity or use of alcohol and/or tobacco is prohibited unless it is a sponsored event.
- Marijuana plants are not allowed.
- Weeding or harvesting from any plot that is not yours is not allowed.
- Untidy gardens are not allowed. Debris and trash must be removed from the garden area by gardeners. All plots are to be kept free of weeds and harmful insects.

PLEASE NOTE: High Country Conservation is NOT liable for failed garden crops due to soil, seeds, plants, or weather!

Nancy's Garden Only – In an effort to ensure our plots are full, the refundable deposit for withdrawn applications will be through May 15th.

Failure to comply with the above procedures may result in the plot being reassigned and

forfeit of plot fees. The Garden Steering Committee will give one warning. If the problem has not been satisfactorily addressed within two weeks, the plot will be assigned to the next gardener on the waiting list. Garden Steering Committees and the High Country Conservation Center are the final authority in all disputes.