



Let's Get Growing!

March 2015

As a community greenhouse we are all responsible for our plots, to keep them healthy and thriving. Not only for our own selves, but for the sake of our neighbouring plots and all plots within this delicate ecosystem. Over the last 5 years of growing we have endured many outbreaks of disease and pests in both greenhouses. We have learnt from these experiences, and revised our guidelines for this season.

Security

1. Members may not share the combination code with anyone else. This is particularly important for the Cascade Greenhouse as we have had problems with people outside of the greenhouse community getting the code and using the beautiful rooftop for their own purposes. We don't particularly enjoy cleaning up cigarette butts and empty beer cans.

Waste

1. All plant waste is to be removed from the greenhouses right away so as not to attract pests/disease. Please use the Town of Banff and Cascade Plaza Organics bins.
2. Please be careful to dispose of all plastic materials and other recyclables, in the designated containers for recycling provided by the Town of Banff and the Cascade Plaza.

Children and Pets

1. Children must be supervised by a parent(s) or guardian(s) adult at all times.
2. No pets in the greenhouse; pets must be kept outside on a leash.

Gardening

1. Harvest only from your own garden plot / hanging baskets.
2. Members may not tend another members' garden plot without permission.
3. Members that fail to keep their garden plots weeded, pest free and maintained could result in forfeiture of the plots. Warning will be given.
4. It is very important that you do not bring in any plants, soil, fertilizer, etc. of your own
5. No extra anything on the floors (plants, tires, tools etc)
6. Other seeds may be brought in, providing that you email the board and receive confirmation that they are suitable for our environment.

Plot Assignment

1. Garden plots are assigned on a lottery.
2. Members will be allowed to hold one garden plot for 2 years, unless they wish to decline their second year.
3. Gardeners may terminate their plot tenure before the end of the season, but please give notice to the BGGGS board so that it can be cleaned and re-assigned to someone on the waiting list.
4. Garden plots must be paid in full within two weeks of the first orientation or the plot will be redistributed to those on the waiting list.

Tools and Facilities

1. Each member is responsible for keeping the work areas and shelving clean and tidy.
2. Tools and supplies, belonging to BGGs, must be properly cleaned and replaced in the designated areas, and may not be removed from the site.
3. Please keep the path area around your garden plot swept (Cascade). Place unused pots/trays under your plot and the surrounding ledges empty. Please do not put extra pots or trays on the ledges to allow air movement and prevent mold growth.
4. Members may place temporary decorations in their plot, but acknowledge that these may be removed by the Board (or designate) if they interfere with greenhouse or garden function, pose a safety risk, encroach on another member's plot, or are deemed offensive.
5. Damage to the greenhouses themselves will be taken very seriously and could result in forfeiture of the plot. This includes building additions such as shelving.

Consequences

1. Because this is a community project, we all need to ensure that the Guidelines are respected. If you notice someone breaking a rule, please bring it to their attention. Any concerns may also be directed to the Board (or designate), and may result in loss of membership privileges.
2. Members that don't keep their plots weeded and maintained risk the forfeiture of their plots. Notice will be given. The Guidelines may be amended by the Board should an issue concerning the betterment of the project as a whole arise.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Members can:

1. Rent garden plots.
2. Grow your own fruits and vegetables, locally!
3. Access a wealth of information within the membership.
4. Visit the Society facebook page for updates on the project and its future.
5. Have your say on important topics at Society meetings.
6. Meet others with common interests in gardening and form new relationships within the community.
7. Bring friends and family to visit the gardens and tour the greenhouses.
8. Learn to grow. From veggies to fruit, gardening is a great way for people of all ages to expand their mind.
9. Access periodic workshops held by the Society with gardening related themes.
10. Participate in Society events such as BBQ's, harvest celebrations and more.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The greenhouses, located at the Banff Recreation Grounds and on the Cascade Plaza rooftop, have many existing amenities including unobstructed sunlight, access to water, public washrooms and parking. The greenhouses are not heated. The intent is to extend Banff's growing season in the spring and fall, not year round.

- Built by BC Greenhouse Builders Ltd. <http://www.bcgreenhouses.com> with the assistance of our wonderful volunteers
- Materials: clear polycarbonate panes and metal framing, on concrete pillars.
- 34 gardening plots at the Rec Grounds and 25 at Cascade
- Heat-activated hydraulic window openers
- Gravel floor at the Rec Grounds, Cement at the Plaza

Organic Gardening Principles:

Following in the footsteps of several other community greenhouse projects, we are adopting a common practice of organic growing, for healthy eating and a lighter footprint on the planet. Square Foot Gardening (SFG) is a great way to maximize minimal growing space. Each plot is 16 sq ft in size and resources will be available to help gardeners plan what to plant and how to get the most out of the plots/ hanging baskets.

We provide the soil and seeds:

In order to keep the balance in this fragile greenhouse environment we will be monitoring all materials that come in. All tools and gloves brought in must be cleaned in a bleach solution. Seeds, fertilizer and soil will be provided for each plot. Help us reduce the risk of diseases and keep the balance. It is very important that you do not bring in any plants, soil, fertilizer, etc. of your own!

What will grow best in the greenhouse?

It must be recognized that a greenhouse can't grow everything. It's too hot for some plants, or others take up too much room, while species that are susceptible to early frost and can handle some heat do well in the greenhouse.

We will provide a few orientation sessions as well as community learning events throughout this coming season, thanks to our social committee.

So far this year we have planned:

Tuesday June 9th *Midsummer Maintenance*

Thursday August 20th *Fall Harvest BBQ*

Times TBC, but will likely be evening events.

Greenhouse management:

The Banff Greenhouse Gardening Society (BGGs) will manage the greenhouse with limited assistance from the Town of Banff and Cascade Plaza.

We need your help!

We are always looking for volunteers and donations. If you are able to assist in any way, please let us know, and we will send out emails with requests for help as and when we need it.

Need more seeds?

Send us an email or facebook message and if we have seeds we'll get them to you. Likewise if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions please get in touch.

banffgreenhouse@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Banff-Community-Greenhouse/288045299353?ref=nf>

Happy Gardening!