

# Volunteer Hours

## Why your contribution is important to the Berkeley Garden

While it may seem getting your work hours done is a chore and is only done to keep from paying a fee. In fact it is to maintain the garden, and share equally in the work that needs to be done...

- *Roger Stearns, former Garden Leader*

Everyone loves the garden and the wonderful opportunity it provides for each of us to grow our own flowers and vegetables. But for this property to be made available to us we have obligations to the community and the City.

We are required to provide access to the public, and maintain an orderly area for our neighbors. Tasks like weeding paths, raking leaves, and picking up trash are all part of creating a pleasant environment. We have to maintaining the water system, build and repair garden structures and fences, maintain the shed, trimming bushes and mowing the grass.

This is why your involvement is so important. Volunteers perform all work in the garden - there is no paid garden staff. As they say, “many hands make light work”

Our membership is based on a \$65 membership fee and 12 hours of mandatory work hours in the common garden areas. (Gardening in your own plot does not count towards your required work hours.)

If you do not meet the minimum number of cleanup hours, you are required pay an additional fee of \$150 to renew your garden plot next season. The fees go to augment garden dues to pay for garden maintenance and bills.

### Contribution Opportunities

- There are organized cleanups every-other Monday night 6 – 7 PM. Special project clean ups are held on Saturdays on an as-needed basis.
- We have many non-garden type activities (graphic design, fundraising and providing administrative oversight)
- You can also be assigned to manage specific areas of the garden to weed, cleanup or otherwise maintain – this can be done at your convenience.
- There are maintenance opportunities for those handy with a hammer or saw.
- You can suggest other activities if you have special skills – we are open to ideas.

Please contact the Garden Committee if you have any ideas or concerns.

Again, our goal is to keep a well maintained and always improving garden.

# Garden Cleanup

## Achieving and Reporting Cleanup Hours

While it may seem getting your work hours done is a chore and is only done to keep from paying a fee. In fact it is to maintain the garden, and share equally in the work that needs to be done...

- *Roger Stearns, former Garden Leader*

Everyone in the garden must complete a minimum of 12 hours of community service to the garden. This is work over and above working in your own plot and keeping the area in front of your plot clean and weed free

If you don't achieve 12 hours of service, there will be a \$150 fee that must be paid in order for you to renew the following year.

Hours are recorded for each calendar year – January-December.

The 12 hour requirement is an “all or nothing” – there is no partial credit or “\$15 per hour” reduction of the \$150 fee for some hours worked.

If you come to a Monday night cleanup, you must check in at the end of the cleanup with the ‘clip board person’ of the evening in order for your hour to be recorded.

If you work off hours or on your own, work hours *must* be reported in order to get work credit. Report hours via email to [cleanups@berkeleygardens.org](mailto:cleanups@berkeleygardens.org) within a day or two of the work, stating

- Your name
- Garden plot number
- Date you worked
- Task you completed
- Number of hours worked for credit
- *If you have a cell phone send a photo of the work you have completed (the bags of trash, or the worked area, etc) (photos may be used for garden publicity.)*

If two adults share a garden, and work independently, you each can get time credited to your plot. (It's a tough call. Two people raking leaves do the work of two. Two people picking up trash together – have you done the work of two?? We will try to be fair while making sure garden work is getting done)

Again, our goal is to have a well-maintained Community Garden space, and that only happens when everyone pitches in!