



# ELECTRIC LADYBUG GARDEN

## Garden Rules

**Purpose-** To help ensure that the Electric Ladybug Garden is safe and well-managed, is respectful and welcoming to garden members, local residents and the general public, and to ensure the long-term preservation of this GreenThumb community garden for future generations.

**Open Hours-** April 1 to October 31 the garden is open to the public, weather permitting, *if and when a garden member is present and hosting* Monday-Thursday 5:30pm-8pm, Friday 5:30pm-10pm, Saturday 9am-10pm, Sunday 9am-8pm.

### General Conduct in Garden-

1. Welcome to the garden! Please be courteous and respectful to all. Please ask if you have questions.
2. Garden gate must be closed and locked when no garden members are available to host.
3. Please observe all posted signs and instructions from hosting garden member.
4. No smoking or alcoholic beverages as per NYC Dept. of Parks & Recreation/GreenThumb.
5. Please properly supervise your children and guests.
6. Do not engage in illegal, unsafe or threatening behavior.
7. Keep pets on leash at all times and in front of garden only.
8. Please follow compost bin instructions and do not compost in plots.
9. Please keep noise to a reasonable level and leave at closing time and/or when garden host closes garden. No amplified music, radios, speakers, etc. without board permission.
10. No grilling in the garden or bringing in of equipment or furniture without board permission.
11. Do not touch or remove plants from other gardeners' plots for any reason without permission or take anything from the garden that is not rightfully yours. *Ask about our community beds!*
12. Please keep the garden clean by taking all trash or other items with you when you leave.
13. The garden has a thin layer of clean topsoil over contaminated urban rubble. Do not dig holes in the garden or disturb the layer of topsoil. Do not place soil from the garden into plots, compost bins, etc. Do not plant anything outside of plots without permission of the board or appropriate committee.
14. Do not store personal items in shed or garden, or bring in flammable materials, without permission from board.
15. Do not plant anything in common areas or community beds without permission from the board/designated plant committee rep. Do not build things without permission from board/design committee rep.



**Events-** An event is any planned gathering in the garden of (10) or more people. All events must be clearly described and approved beforehand by the board & Event Committee. Ideally, events should be designed to engage local residents and to help build and maintain community ties. Visits by school groups with a key who have been assigned an Educational Grow Bed in the garden are exempt from such approval requirements in season Monday through Friday from 8am-5pm.

**Community Grow Beds-** The garden has community grow beds (long and narrow) against the east and west sides of the garden that are not assigned to individuals. Any member of the community may enter the garden during open hours, check in with the garden member host on duty, and obtain a reasonable amount of ripe produce for personal use only from these beds. *Please do not harvest from assigned grow beds without permission. Please ask a garden member where the community beds are if you are unsure.*

**Membership-** There are two types of memberships: Non-Plot holders & Plot Holders. All members must satisfy the corresponding membership requirements noted below and abide by all Garden Rules to remain in Good Standing to maintain membership and voting privileges.

**Non-Plot holder Member-** One person who is required to volunteer 4 hours per month in season, no activity fee owed, must sign Member Agreement, must attend a garden orientation session. Receives 1 key for \$3 and 1 vote on garden matters after 2 months of consistent volunteering.

**Plot holder Member-** One person with an assigned plot who must volunteer 4 hours per month in season, regardless of plot size, must use and maintain assigned plot, must pay plot activity fee annually (\$50/full or \$25/half) by March 1 of each year, must sign Member Agreement, must attend a garden orientation session. Receives 1 key and 1 vote on garden matters.

**Keys-** Members who are eligible for keys must not share, lend, make copies, etc. for non-members. Members who fail to remain in Good Standing must return the key. Plot holder members only may request an additional key for \$3.00 each that can only be used by the plot holder's immediate household. Replacement keys are \$3.00.

**Assigned Plot Waiting List-** Anyone may ask to have their name added to the waiting list for assigned plots by emailing a request to [electricladybugharlem@gmail.com](mailto:electricladybugharlem@gmail.com), or for those without email, by giving a written request to a board member or garden contact. When a plot becomes available, the board will offer the plot to the first person found on the waiting list who is a member in good standing and has fully met the volunteer requirement over the preceding three months. No household may be assigned more than (1) plot, regardless of size. At the end of each season, names of persons who have not fully satisfied the volunteering requirement for at least one month of that season will be removed from the waiting list, and all names of persons who have volunteered at least one month will be retained and carried over to the next year in the same order.

**Thank you for visiting the Electric Ladybug Garden in Harlem!**

