SJCC Kesher Community Garden Program Information and Guidelines

In order to create a sustainable SJCC Kesher Community Garden, we ask you to take a minute to review this information and check the box below to agree to these guidelines.

• The Stroum Jewish Community Center leases SJCC Kesher Community Garden space to individuals, families and groups for recreation gardening for personal and educational use. Produce or flowers grown at the SJCC Kesher Community Garden are not to be sold or used for profit-making purposes.

• This application to lease a SJCC Kesher Community Garden plot begins February 14, 2014. After that date, any remaining plots will be available for non-members to lease. The annual fee per plot is $65 for returning renters or $65 for new renters, plus a one-time $25 application fee, regardless of the registration date. We do not pro-rate and there will be no refunds. Returning renters are given priority to maintain their status; new gardeners are given the opportunity to join on a space-is-available basis; plots will be assigned based on order of submitted registration forms.

• If and when all of the plots are leased, the SJCC Kesher Community Garden Committee reserves the right to re-visit the assignment rules.

• Each plot is approximately 10’ x 10’ feet. Plots must be fully utilized. If your plot is too large for you to manage, we suggest sharing with a friend, planting a cover crop in the undesired area, or contacting the SJCC to request a plot-sharing partner. Gardeners are responsible for tilling, cultivating, weeding, watering, fertilizing, end of season clean-up, and all other care of their plots. In addition, all gardeners are responsible for maintaining the “common” areas adjacent to their plot. We want to emphasize cooperation and encourage everyone to be helpful and respectful of their P-Patch neighbors. If you need help (for example, watering when out of town or maintaining your P-Patch for any reason), please contact the SJCC Kesher Community Garden Coordinator or contact one of your plot neighbors.

• SJCC Kesher Community Garden gardeners who fail to follow the rules will receive a phone call and or email from the SJCC Kesher Community Garden Coordinator. Anyone who is unable to comply with the rules after receiving a written warning will lose priority assignment status in the subsequent year. No refund will be given.

• The SJCC Kesher Community Garden is an “organic” garden. Plants on the state’s Noxious Weed List are not permitted within plots. View this list at www.dnr.metrokc.gov/wlr/lands/weeds/index.htm. For additional gardening resources contact the Seattle Tilth Garden Hotline, help@gardenhotline.org. Only organic pesticides (if necessary) are permitted and must be applied by a licensed pesticide company.

• Hose bibs are located on each end of the SJCC Kesher Community Garden. Watering must be done by hand, buckets, sprinkling can, or hose. If using a hose, be careful to avoid other plots and be aware that sharing the faucets are required. Gardeners must not keep containers of water on the premises as this serves as a breeding ground for mosquitoes that may spread viruses dangerous to humans.

• SJCC Kesher Community Garden participants are responsible for providing and storing shovels, rakes, and other gardening tools in the tool shed for all gardeners to share. The SJCC is not responsible for any lost or damaged tools. Other supplies specific to your plot such as wires, plastic, tin cans, glass, tires, chairs, weed-block fabric, plastic pots, wire tomato cages, stakes, tools, etc. must be kept within the limits of your plot.

• All SJCC Kesher Community Garden participants are required to perform a minimum of 8 hours of volunteer service at the SJCC Kesher Community Garden each year to help beautify and maintain common grounds and surrounding areas.
• Discard plant materials in the designated compost area. Do not pile weeds, rocks, etc. in the pathways. Please take non-plant materials (wire/plastic/trash etc.) home with you for proper disposal. The SJCC will not have trash bins on site.

• No motorized vehicles or equipment are allowed in the SJCC Kesher Community Garden or on the path from the parking lot.

• Dogs, cats and other animals are NOT allowed in the SJCC Kesher Community Garden area.

• Smoking and alcohol are prohibited. Tobacco products can contain a mosaic virus which is harmful to certain plants such as tomatoes and beans. NO profanity, yelling or loud music.

• Gardening resources: call these numbers to ask questions you may have about gardening. They are a great resource for any problems you might encounter and they also have lots of literature and resources for gardening demonstrations, clinics, etc.

  Master Gardeners                                              206-296-3440
  Center for Urban Horticulture, UW                     206-543-8616
  Seattle Tilth Garden Hotline                               206-633-0224, help@gardenhotline.org