



## Guidelines and Policies

The Aberdeen Harvest of Hope (AHH) functions as a community garden, teaching garden for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Harford County, and an outdoor learning lab. Plots are available for rent to individuals, families, businesses, and organizations for the purpose of food production. Other communal areas including the food forest, giant chess set, toolshed, and seating area(s) will be maintained and shared by the garden community as a whole. The AHH will also host events open to the local community in order to promote healthy habits through the practice of gardening.

### Membership:

- Number of garden plots available per household will not be restricted as long as there is not a waitlist for membership.
- New gardeners must submit completed Membership forms. New gardeners will be notified after January 15<sup>th</sup> of space available.
- If space is available, membership dues must be paid within two weeks to hold the spot.
- Preference for new gardeners will be given to Aberdeen residents.

### Participation:

- Members must participate in the AHH through gardening, communal labor, or attending meetings, events, or workshops by June 15<sup>th</sup>.
- A minimum of 4 hours of communal labor and attendance at any 2 events, workshops, or meetings is required.
- Communal labor tasks include: maintaining pathways, maintaining the food forest and rain garden, and maintaining communal structures (shed, chess set, and seating area).

### Plot Fee and Size:

- The plot fee is \$20.00
- Fees are non-refundable.
- Plot size is 10'x10'

### Plot Use:

- If you choose to stop using your assigned plot during the season it will be taken back by the AHH.

- Growing of any state-wide or federally illegal substances is not permitted and will result in the loss of plot use and plot fee.
- Expansion of plots and encroachment on other plots is not permitted.
- Diseased plants must be removed immediately.
- Invasive plant species must be kept in containers at all times, and are highly discouraged.
- A plot marker must be kept visible at all times.
- No permanent structures may be installed except for those installed by the AHH.
- Crops or removable structures such as trellises cannot exceed 48 inches in height.
- Gardeners are responsible for planting, weeding, watering, and harvesting their own plots. Plots and their surrounding paths should be kept clear throughout the year.
- Plots must be cleared of all debris and materials by November 15<sup>th</sup>.

Materials:

- Tools will be available for use by gardeners in the tool shed. Tools are to be used only for gardening purposes on the AHH property. Please clean and return tools to the shed after use.
- Water will be supplied through the garden water line. Gardeners can fill watering cans at the lawn hydrants. Hoses and sprinkling systems are not allowed.

General:

- Communal space and rented plots should be kept neat and clean.
- Trash must be disposed of properly before leaving the garden.
- No alcohol, illegal substances, smoking, or pets allowed in the garden.
- At all times gardeners and guests should be considerate towards fellow gardeners, guests, and neighbors.

***I hereby agree to all Aberdeen Harvest of Hope Guidelines and Policies. I understand that failure to do so will result in loss of the plot and loss of the plot fee.***

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return to:**

Kaila Hough AmeriCorps Healthy Habits Vista  
 100 East Bel Air Avenue, Aberdeen, MD 21001  
 410-272-0010x16  
 garden@bgcharfordco.org