

## SUMMARY OF ALL GARDEN ROLES

A community garden is a shared space – a commons. Gardeners not only take care of their own garden plots but also maintain common areas and carry out many everyday garden management tasks, such as plot checks, minor irrigation repair, and compost processing. To equitably distribute this effort, Wasatch Community Gardens (WCG) requires that each gardener perform at least 6 hours of “garden service” outside of their plot each year. The easiest way to accomplish this is to volunteer for a specific garden role. Roles can also be shared between two people, such as having two Irrigation Co-Stewards, or in larger teams, such as a common space weeding crew.

All gardeners with roles participate as volunteers under the direction and discretion of the WCG Garden Manager (the WCG staff person that supervises garden activities) and are approved at the fall and spring mandatory garden meetings. Roles are for a single year commitment, with the potential for renewal. All roles will receive explanatory information and/or training in the beginning of the season, and ongoing support from the WCG Garden Manager throughout the year. If you sign up for a role and are unable to complete your responsibilities, please contact your WCG Garden Manager so that they can make other arrangements.



**Garden Service Coordinator** - The main responsibility is to help gardeners fulfill their 6-hour garden service requirement. This includes visiting the garden twice-per-month to observe garden needs using a provided checklist; promoting garden service opportunities on the Garden Service Log and/or through hosting garden work parties; and reporting garden service hours to WCG Garden Manager each month.

**Irrigation Steward** - The main responsibility is to monitor the irrigation system and troubleshoot issues as they arise. This includes helping prepare the system in the spring; performing twice-per-month tests of the system; helping diagnose problems and making light repairs; responding to gardener concerns; and educating gardeners on the proper use and maintenance of the drip system on their plot.

**Treasurer** - The main responsibility is to work with the WCG Garden Manager to conduct the financial business of the garden. This includes making approved purchases personally for later reimbursement; collecting receipts of approved purchases from other gardeners for later reimbursement; working with the WCG Garden Manager to make purchase orders; and submitting reimbursement forms in a timely manner.

**Plot Checker** - The main responsibility is to initiate the plot citation process for garden policy violations. This includes checking plots monthly for weeds and safety concerns such as uncapped rebar; reporting violations to WCG Garden Manager; and providing follow-up checks each month.

**Harvest Checker** - The main responsibility is to help reduce produce waste. This includes performing twice-per-month harvest checks in garden plots; notifying the WCG Garden Manager about waste; and overseeing the alternate produce distribution routes for gardeners unable to use all the food from their plots.

**Common Area Steward** - The main responsibility is maintaining common areas for their designated purpose, such as communal herbs plots, pollinator zones, fruit trees, gathering spaces, donation plots, You-Pick-It Fence areas, etc. This includes spring preparation of planting beds; maintenance such as weeding, thinning, and pruning; preparing the area for winter; and coordinating any distribution of the plot's produce, if applicable.

**Membership Coordinator** - The main responsibility is helping gardeners meet their garden orientation requirement. This includes meeting and providing orientations for new gardeners eager to start before the spring meeting, or who join after the spring meeting; and making reminder phone calls for spring and fall meeting attendance.

**Refugee Mentor** - The main responsibility is building relationships with interested refugee gardeners. This includes attending an orientation from the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and becoming a volunteer in their program; and engaging interested refugee gardeners and offering some basic support and resources (English instruction, occasional transportation assistance, gardening advice, etc).

**Compost Steward** - The main responsibility is actively managing the garden compost pile. This includes gathering proper quantities of brown and green materials; building piles and actively managing them with aeration and moisture; and coordinating the distribution of the finished product.

**Shed Steward** - The main responsibility is the care and oversight of garden resources. This includes organizing and inventorying the community tool shed each spring; cleaning the shed each month; replacing garden locks if they go missing; making minor repairs and sharpening tools; removing graffiti or contacting the authorities to do so; and weeding the area around of the community tool shed.

**Pest Monitor** - The main responsibility is monitoring the garden for pests and diseases. This includes twice-per-month checks of garden plots for signs of pest outbreaks; seeking diagnosis and recommendations from available resources, such as the Utah State Extension Office; and promptly passing on information to gardeners for action.

**Delivery Coordinator** - The main responsibility is transporting and distributing garden resources. This includes handling the distribution of plant sale leftovers, and coordinating the drop-off of garden donations and purchases. Access to a vehicle is required for this role.

**Other Helpful Roles** - Moving trash cans to the street when full and then returning; Promoting the garden by spreading flyers or helping organize public events; Giving advice to newbies on gardening matters; Organizing internal garden events such as potlucks, recipe-shares, skill-sharing workshops, etc; Shoveling snow on garden sidewalks (4<sup>th</sup> East, Grateful Tomato, Off-Broadway only); and developing new garden amenities, such as pergolas, perennial landscaping, murals, ADA boxes, etc.