



City of Wilmington Water Policy for Community Gardens

The City of Wilmington (the “City”), in cooperation with the Delaware Urban Food and Farm Coalition, has determined that for Community Gardens to expand in the City, water access is a primary concern. The City desires to create the Water Policy for Community Gardens (the “Policy”) to establish how water is accessed, managed and paid for by Community Gardens. This Policy makes clear the understanding on behalf the City and Community Gardens that the set up and water access will be provided through the City’s Department of Public Works.

The Community Garden Operator shall serve as the point of contact with the City. The Community Garden Operator shall be responsible for coordinating all payments due to the City and ensuring that timely payments are made. The Community Garden Operator shall be responsible for coordinating all activities regarding the Community Garden to the City including, but not limited to the following:

- Site Access
- Coordination of winterization of water access
- Payments
- Site cleaning and maintenance

The Department of Public Works, Water Division, shall manage all requests for water access at Community Garden sites throughout the City.

Community Garden is defined as:

A site where any kind of plant, including flowers, is grown, and several individuals or households cultivate the site. The site may be divided into individual allotments or plots, or gardeners may work together to cultivate the entire property. The land may be publicly or privately owned.

City water can only be accessed through:

Direct water hook-up at the site to existing City infrastructure.

The City shall:

- Provide a water service line to the approved Community Garden site with a meter.
- Winterize water meters at the end of the growing season and reactivate water meters for the beginning of the growing season. The growing season is from March 15th through November 15th.
- Reserve the right to cease all water services to a Community Garden in the event payment due to the City is 90 days past due.

The Community Garden shall:

- Designate a Community Garden Operator.
- Timely pay for all water used at the Community Garden site.
- Timely pay for all storm water management fees charged by the City.
- Not be responsible to pay for sewer charges.
- Provide a stand pipe from the water service line.