**Overview**

The Municipality of Kincardine supports the use of public land for volunteer community gardening. As such, the Kincardine Marina will provide garden plots for volunteer gardeners along the sloping garden on the south side of the harbour. To apply for a plot, a written request must be made to the Kincardine Marina Harbour Master for approval (see form attached). Only those with a boat in the marina may apply.

The overall area for gardens, from the west end of the picnic shelter to the driveway, is approximately 185 ft by 12ft. The area behind the picnic shelter and another 40 ft on the east side of the stairs is planted to shrubs, which will remain (this area could be assigned as one or 2 additional plots). This leaves about 125 ft for garden plots that would be divided among interested gardeners, up to a maximum of 10 plots, for a total of 12 plots.

Gardeners will take the initiative and responsibility for organizing, maintaining and managing their respective garden plot. Each plot shall have one person to act as the main contact person for the purpose of communication with the Kincardine Marina Harbour Master. If a volunteer gardener wants to make major changes to a plot, a request must be sent to the Kincardine Marina Harbour Master for written approval prior to any changes. Marina staff may lend assistance when needed, if time permits.

The Kincardine Marina/Kincardine Yacht Club reserves the right to enter garden plots at any time to view, maintain and do any infrastructure work. Notice will be given if time permits.

**Support**

* The Municipality of Kincardine may provide gardening media materials in mid-May:
	+ Sheep Manure 18 kg bags (40 lb)
	+ Seasonal Annual Flowers
	+ Termite Resistant Mulch
* Scott McGregor, Kincardine Horticulture Supervisor will be available for consult if required.
* The Kincardine Marina/Kincardine Yacht Club will regularly inspect garden plots to prevent malfeasance of use of the garden plots.

**Responsibilities & Cooperation**

* All gardening tools are to be provided by the gardener, although harbour owned equipment may be available for use.
* Watering is the responsibility of the gardener. Water is available from hoses and faucets below the gardens along the edge of the harbour.
* Garden tools, supplies or personal affects must be removed each time maintenance is done on the plot as the Kincardine Marina/Kincardine Yacht Club will not be responsible for damages, loss or theft of gardener’s tools, personal effects or flowers.
* The gardener may not prune, trim or harm any municipally owned tree(s) or alter any municipally owned property without first seeking approval.
* Motorized equipment is not allowed in the day to day maintenance of the plots; however, if one time motorized equipment is required seasonally, then approval may be granted on a case by case basis.
* All garden plots will be pesticide / herbicide free zones. The Municipality does not permit the use of chemical herbicides or insecticides. The Municipality promotes the removal of infestations mechanically and/or preventatively i.e. physically remove eggs, pests and avoid planting susceptible crops.
* Pathways are to be kept clear for physical accessibility, allowing comfortable mobility for all. The area below the gardens must be kept clear for storage of boat masts as well as use of the crane.
* Only natural materials may be used in the garden plots. No ornaments or statuary allowed.
* Only termite resistant mulch will be approved for use in the garden plots.
* Garden plot markers are not to be removed.
* Vandalism of garden plots should be reported to the Kincardine Marina Harbour Master.
* Fertilizers must be used as per manufacturer’s instructions and shall not be left on-site unattended at any time. Organic fertilizers are recommended.
* Smoking is prohibited within garden plots.
* Pets will not permitted in the garden bed plots. All pets outside of the garden plots must be kept on a leash.
* Garbage and plant materials are to be placed in garbage bags and put in the dumpster.
* Garden plots are to be weeded on a weekly basis or as weeds persist.
* Tall shrubs, perennials and annuals are to be planted in areas within the flower bed plot so as not to shade neighbouring plots.
* Illegal plants are strictly prohibited.
* If a garden plot remains unattended or is in non-compliance for a period of time, notification will be given to the plot contact person to inquire if interest no longer remains. All gardens to be subject to restrictions determined and imposed by the Harbour Master. Gardens must meet minimum standards or lose use of plot, to also be decided by Harbour Master.
* First refusal for using the same plot the following year goes to previous year's gardener if doing an acceptable job as per above.
* To inquire about garden plots, notify of vandalism or have any questions or concerns please contact the Harbour Master at 519-396-4336