Role of the Master Gardener in Community Gardens

All participants in any future community garden efforts must recognize that WSU Extension certifies Master Gardeners to act as volunteer educators and advocates for sustainable gardening in their communities. In this spirit, Master Gardener Volunteers may assist community partners by:

- Leading community partners through a step by step process to develop a community garden;
- Helping to assess the suitability of a property for a community garden;
- Helping to design the garden, including layout of beds and common areas;
- Providing assistance in acquiring funding and grants, including in-kind donations based on the value of volunteer hours;
- Arranging for or leading workshops and seminars in the garden;
- Giving one on one or small group instruction on activities such as preparing soil, planting, cultivation, harvest, pest management, etc.; and/or
- Developing an ongoing master gardener mentor who is a neighborhood resident.

Master Gardeners may maintain a minimal bed to use for demonstration of sustainable gardening techniques or practices. Any produce from this bed will be distributed according to the rules developed for the garden.

Master Gardeners may not maintain any communal or individual plots. Any physical labor performed is done so as a private citizen, and WSU’s liability insurance will not apply.

Signature(s) of WSU Extension Master Gardeners:

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This document created by WSU Extension Whatcom County Master Gardener Program, revised 10/2014