

# SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS

# P-PATCH COMMUNITY

# GARDENING PROGRAM

***The P-Patch Community Gardening Program is made up of community managed open spaces in Seattle neighborhoods. Gardeners, individually and collectively, use small plots of land to grow organic food, flowers, fruits, and herbs.***

***The gardens are open to the public to enjoy. Each garden is unique, and their amenities may include picnic areas, benches, art, flower gardens, educational signage, sustainability demonstrations, and children's gardens.***

## **PROGRAM DETAILS**

The P-Patch Community Gardening Program is managed by Seattle Department of Neighborhoods. As of December 2017, there are 90 P-Patch community gardens, 3,055 plots, and more than 3,125 gardeners.



P-Patch gardens have a diverse history and serve diverse needs. The first garden, Picardo Farm, was created in 1973 by a group of community residents and the city of Seattle. Gardens are built on public property owned by various city departments and other public and private owners. Gardens range from small to large, and cooperative style (shared plots) to large-tract market gardens (food grown by low-income farmers to sell or share with their communities).



## **FUN FACTS**

*Oldest Site:* Picardo (2.5 acres)

*Largest Site:* Thistle (3+ acres)

*# of Sites with Accessible Raised Beds:* 18

*Newest Site:* Troll's Knoll

*Smallest Site:* Ida Mia (700 square feet)

*# of Market Gardens:* 3



**Seattle**  
Neighborhoods

**P-PATCH COMMUNITY  
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# Seattle Department of Neighborhoods

## P-PATCH COMMUNITY GARDENING PROGRAM

### MORE PROGRAM FACTS

#### SUCCESS THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

In addition to our staff's work, P-Patch community gardens thrive through the dedication of many organizations and the gardeners themselves.

- Solid Ground's Lettuce Link
- GROW
- Tilth Alliance
- Seattle Housing Authority
- Gardeners who volunteer 41,739 hours annually



#### P-PATCH COMMUNITY GARDENS IN DEMAND

Because demand is high, staff work to grow capacity, as well as support other community gardening efforts:

- 2,100+ people on Interest List (as of December 2017).
- Waiting time for individual gardens is between 3 months and 4 years.
- Annual turnover across entire program averages 12.5%.

#### PROGRAMS FOR LOW-INCOME AND UNDERREPRESENTED POPULATIONS

One of our core values is supporting low-income and underrepresented populations. One example is the Market Garden Program. Low-income and immigrant families living in Seattle Housing Authority properties garden and sell their produce to local residents. In 2017, 15 gardeners representing five cultures collaborated to provide produce for farm stands.

The program also provides financial assistance. In 2017, more than 500 families from 70 P-Patch gardens received assistance, totaling \$32,734.

### Garden Fees

Garden plots run in different sizes:

10' x 10' – \$43

10' x 20' – \$57

10' x 40' – \$85

Financial assistance is available for those who can't afford plot fees.

In addition to the annual fee, eight hours of volunteer time are required to maintain public areas of the P-Patch.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

**P-PATCH COMMUNITY GARDENING PROGRAM**  
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#### GARDENERS SUPPORT FOOD BANKS

- 61 gardens have gleaning programs or a designated "giving garden" plot in which the food is grown for food banks and hot meal programs.
- Gardeners donated more than 63,000 pounds of produce in 2017.

