

P-PATCH CODE OF CONDUCT

Seattle Department of Neighborhoods Director's Rule #1-2023

P-Patch Program Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy

The following behaviors are prohibited in all P-Patches when interacting with fellow gardeners, community members or City staff:

- Content or behavior that promotes, fosters, or perpetuates discrimination based on a person's race, color, religion, creed, caste, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, ancestry, age, genetic information, disability, marital status, veteran or military status, status with regard to public assistance, or political ideology.
- Obscene or racist comments
- Personal attacks, harassment, insults or threatening language
- Profane language or content
- Engaging in disruptive/unsafe behavior that disturbs others in the garden
- Sexual misconduct

Prohibited Activities

While on the premises of a P-Patch community garden, the following activities are prohibited:

- Destruction of property
- Spitting, urinating or defecating (except in designated restrooms)
- Unleashed dogs (please pick up after your dog)
- Theft of plants or property
- Possession, sale or use of illegal drugs
- Disposing of unwanted items anywhere but in a designated trash or recycling receptacle
- Possession of firearms or other weapons
- Any conduct that unreasonably interferes with other people's use of the P-Patch
- Drinking of alcoholic beverages without a permit
- Smoking or vaping (Washington State Code RCW 70.160.030)
- Camping or setting up structures
- Improper use of water fixtures (no bathing, shampooing or washing clothes)
- Campfires, bonfires, burn barrels, fire pits, weed torches and/or any other form of open flame or burning activity other than covered pizza ovens and lidded barbecues

Enforcement

Failure to comply with the P-Patch Code of Conduct may result in:

- Disqualification from further participation in the P-Patch Program
- Withdrawal of permission to access the property for a specified period of time

- Citation or arrest for criminal trespass if individual enters or remains on P-Patch property after having been notified that their permission to be on the property has been withdrawn (SMC Section 12A.08.040)

Administrative Review of Enforcement Decisions

Individuals subject to an enforcement action that disqualifies them from participating in the P-Patch Program or accessing a P-Patch property may, within 14 calendar days of issuance of the enforcement action, submit a written request for administrative review to the Department of Neighborhoods. The individual seeking the review shall include in their request any written information or documentation they seek to have considered in the review process. The original enforcement action shall remain in effect pending administrative review.

If an individual timely requests administrative review of an enforcement action, the Director of the Department of Neighborhoods shall designate a Review Officer to conduct the administrative review. Administrative review is an informal process designed to give the individual the chance to explain his or her side of the events surrounding the alleged violation. Administrative reviews are also, typically, confined to the written record and generally do not include witnesses or sworn testimony. The Review Officer may, at their discretion, allow the individual requesting the review the opportunity to orally present their story.

Within ten days of receiving a timely request for administrative review, the Review Officer shall provide a written recommendation to the Director. In making the recommendation, the Review Officer shall review the original enforcement action, the written record, the written request for administrative review, and other information gathered in the course of the review. The Review Officer may, at their discretion, conduct meetings or interviews with the individual requesting administrative review and/or other individuals who may have information relevant to the enforcement action.

The Director shall consider the Review Officer's recommendation and may affirm, modify, terminate or reverse the enforcement decision. The Director's decision is final.

Please contact the main office with questions or concerns: 206.684.0264 / p-patch.don@seattle.gov
www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods