

## Conservation Learning Centre: Community High Tunnel Guidelines

Welcome to the Conservation Learning Centre (CLC) Community High Tunnel (CHT). We're so glad you and/or your group will be gardening with us this season. Please read through the following guidelines and contact CLC Staff with any questions or concerns.

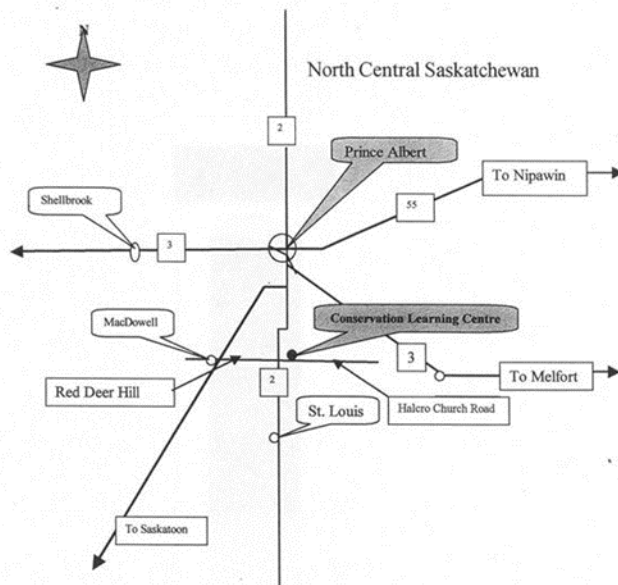
### CLC Staff Contact Information:

Rachael Groat, Community Outreach Coordinator  
Email: rgroat.clc@gmail.com

### Guiding Principles:

- Respect: The Community High Tunnel is a shared space, where everyone feels safe and included.
- Gardening Success: The CLC seeks to make gardening accessible and successful, offering help where possible and when needed.
- Fun: Have fun getting your hands dirty and seeing the fruit of your labour.

### Site Map



**Garden Plots:**

There are twelve 2m by 4m plots in the CHT. Gardeners will be assigned a numbered plot. You are responsible for maintaining your plot and the adjoining walkways throughout the season. Please do not plant, weed, water or harvest from another plot, unless you have permission from the plot holder. A map identifying garden plot holders will be posted, so you know who else you are gardening with.

The CHT has roll-up sides to allow for ventilation during hot days. Do not roll up or roll down the sides of the CHT. CLC Staff will be responsible for this task.

**Season Start Date:**

The advantage of a high tunnel is that it extends the gardening season. Exact opening date of the CHT is TBD, but we hope to have the plots ready after the May long weekend.

**Hours of Operation:**

CLC Staff will be at the CLC Monday to Friday from 8:00am to 4:30pm. The CHT will be open and tools available for use during this time. If you would like to garden outside of these hours, please contact the Community Outreach Coordinator in advance, so we can ensure you have access to everything you need.

Please sign in when you arrive and out when you leave so that we are aware of who is on site.

**Gardening Commitment:**

You are encouraged to visit and maintain your garden as often as possible. A successful garden plot needs love and attention. Plus, watching things grow is one of the beautiful miracles and mysteries of life. We anticipate you will want to visit your plot at least once a week, especially at the beginning of the season as your garden is getting established.

Gardeners are expected to visit their garden plot at a minimum as follows:

- once for orientation (at least one member)
- once in the spring to plant (with your class or group)
- bi-weekly after planting (at least one member or volunteer)
- once in the fall to harvest and clean up garden plot (with your class or group), garden plots must be cleaned up by October 31

If you or your group is unable to maintain your plot throughout the season, you are encouraged to find volunteers to help maintain it. If you need help tending and watering your garden, please make arrangements with the Community Outreach Coordinator for CLC Staff to help between visits.



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**CLC Staff Assistance:**

CLC Staff want your garden to succeed and are available to help or act as a resource for troubleshooting issues in your garden plot. Do not hesitate to reach out to the Community Outreach Coordinator with any questions or concerns.

**Garden Tools and Water:**

Gardening tools are available for use at the CLC. Please take care of the shared Community tools. Hang up or put tools back where you found them, in the shed, when you are done using them. Let the Community Outreach Coordinator know if any tools are missing or broken and need to be fixed or replaced.

**Garbage and Compost:**

Dispose of any garbage and compost appropriately.

**Seeds:**

West Coast Seeds generously donated a variety of seeds to the CLC CHT. Contact the Community Outreach Coordinator if you would like to plant anything from our seed library. Seeds are available on a first come, first served basis.

**Garden Amendments:**

Please consult with CLC Staff before using any pesticides (herbicides, insecticides or fungicides).

**Safety:**

Please use good personal safety practices when visiting the CHT. Take precautions when using gardening tools. Wearing closed toe shoes (not sandals) is encouraged.

The CLC is a working research farm and farm safety is of the utmost importance. Be aware of farm machinery and vehicles moving around the site. Do not enter any buildings or sheds, except the one containing CHT tools, unless you are expressly invited to do so with a CLC Staff Member.

Children are welcome at the CLC when accompanied and supervised by an adult or teacher. Please keep an eye on young children and teach them to be aware of farm equipment. Please do not bring pets to the CLC.

If you see or identify any safety hazards, please notify a CLC Staff Member as soon as possible.

**Parking:**

Park in designated areas only.



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**End of Season:**

Garden plot and adjacent walkways must be cleaned up at the end of the season. Please remove all plants and weeds, and dispose of them appropriately. Cover crops are permitted to be left on the plots.

**What do I do with my produce?**

What you do with the fruits of your gardening labour is up to you! However, we would encourage you to not profit monetarily from it personally. But do eat and enjoy it, share it with your friends or community, or try new recipes with your fresh produce.

**Photography:**

CLC Staff may take photos of gardeners using the Community High Tunnel for newsletter, social media and promotional material purposes. If you do not consent to photos of you or your group being taken and used by the CLC, please inform the Community Outreach Coordinator. We would also love it if you shared photos of you or your group gardening in the Community High Tunnel. Feel free to tag the CLC!



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**Consent:**

Open communication and plot holder involvement are the keys to success. In case of any problem at the Community High Tunnel, I will reach out to a CLC staff member.

The CLC may take photos of plots and/or members working in the Community High Tunnel. By checking the box and signing below, I give the CLC permission to use photos and/or videos of me and my group/organization /students to promote and communicate about the Community High Tunnel.

- I consent to photographs or videos being taken of me and/or my group
- I DO NOT consent to photographs or videos being taken of me and/or my group

By signing this, I am stating that I am/my organization/group is prepared to meet the physical demands of gardening in the Community High Tunnel, i.e., maintaining the plot and upholding garden responsibilities. I agree that I have read and understand the Community High Tunnel guidelines and plan to abide by all of the garden rules. I understand that the CLC is not responsible for my, or my group's actions. I, therefore, agree to hold harmless the CLC for any liability, damage, loss, or claim that occurs in connection with the use of the Community High Tunnel by me or my group.

Name of Primary Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Primary Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_