P-PATCH COMMUNITY GARDENING PROGRAM

SAFETY IN THE GARDEN

P-Patch Community Gardens are public spaces. Our gates are welcoming and as a community garden program, P-Patch encourages local access to each and every one of our gardens. As we invite people to share and enjoy community garden space, we also receive some unwanted behavior. It is important to be aware and prepared. The following is a list of suggestions:

- Know the address of your garden.
- Walk through the garden when you arrive to make your presence known.
- Carry your cell phone with you IN the garden.
- Get off the pathway, allow a quick exit if someone is in the garden that is doing illegal activities.
- Keep your car locked at all times.
- Know your garden's neighbors. Encourage the neighbors to keep an eye on the garden.
- Invite the community Police to speak with your garden community
- Encourage a higher presence of the Police around the garden. Make the Police aware of incidents that occur in your garden. Call the Seattle Police Department (SPD):911 in progress emergencies. For repeated problems call the Community Police Team officer of the

West Precinct: 684-8917
North Precinct: 684-0850
South West Precinct: 733-9800
East Precinct: 684-4300
South Precinct: 386-1850

- Organize and make at least 3 calls by different people to the SPD if a theft, vandalism or other emergency event is in progress.
- Create a presence in the garden throughout the day, not just at predictable times of the day.
- Communicate with your fellow gardeners in positive and beneficial ways. Use the information board in the shed to let people know if your bag has been stolen, vegetables pilfered or other undesirable event. Use the information board to let people know when a fun, exciting and good thing has happened.
- Invite a buddy to be in the garden with you if your personal comfort level is challenged. Seek buddies within the garden community as well as invite your personal friends to visit with you in the garden.
- Interact with strangers in and around the garden in a positive, inviting and friendly manner. Follow your personal instincts in interacting with people if you do not feel safe.
- Let the P-Patch office know when any incident has occurred that you are uncomfortable with, or that you have called the police about. P-Patch Community Gardens Program Tel. 206-684-0264.This number leads you to a directory of all P-Patch staff.

Seattle Department of NeiGHborhoODS

P-PATCH COMMUNITY GARDENING PROGRAM

www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods • 206 684 0464