

Landscape Team Mandate

Consensus March 7, 2015

Mission:

The mission of the Landscape Team is to work with the community to preserve, restore, and maintain the natural areas of our land, and to develop, maintain, and improve our cultivated and mixed-use areas. Toward these ends, this team also serves as the stewards of the Land Use Plan.

Our Land:

Trillium Hollow's Landscape Team holds in its care the 3+ acres of mostly unpaved land that surrounds our buildings [see Land Use map]. Many factors help shape our land:

- Our native areas include the shady, forested area along the year-round stream, steep and sunnier slopes around the back and side of the main building, the swale-like area below the driveway, and the wetland and forest that borders Roger Tilbury Park.
- The more centrally located, cultivated areas of our property includes the vegetable gardens, the plaza gardens for edibles, flowers, herbs, perennials, and small trees, and various areas near the buildings where we nurture a changing variety of plants and community uses.
- The covenant property above us next to the driveway is in a unique category, in our care, though not legally part of our land.

Community Values:

The Landscape Team strives to reflect and affirm Trillium Hollow's values by supporting a rich natural environment for children and adults to experience. We recognize that by working through the difficult task of balancing our stewardship of the natural environment with our commitment to our gardens and cultivated areas, we are living into our commitment to mutual respect, trust, and interdependence. Also, in Wendell Berry's words, we "always include local nature – the land, the water, the air, the native creatures – within the membership of the community." Finally, we invite every community member **to work with us, and** to form his or her own connection with the land through work, play, quiet enjoyment, and shared service.

Responsibilities:

Our specific responsibilities reflect the diversity of the land (all of these are DLA 3-4):

- Support the implementation of the Land Use Plan, which may involve prioritizing, championing, creating, and following through on various projects as they materialize. The Land Use Plan has its own Implementation and Modification process consensed upon by the community.
- Continue care and restoration of our natural areas; supporting ecosystem functions.
- Improve the healthy functioning of our stream and stream banks.
- Protect the natural areas by removing invasive plants.
- Monitor and maintain the trees on the property, which might involve removing, pruning, and planting as deemed necessary. **Communicate any proposed removal of established trees in timely fashion (DLA 3).**
- Use organic and sustainable gardening practices in all that we do, with no pesticides.
- Plant, care for, water, and harvest the vegetable garden areas, sharing produce with the community.
- Plant and maintain our various areas of ornamental plants, herbs, perennials, and flowers.
- Manage an effective compost system for plant debris and the community's kitchen waste.
- Beautify the main building by planting and maintaining container gardens on the 2nd and 3rd floors, and in the plaza area.

- Continue our efforts to conserve water, and to be responsible about its use in the landscape.
- Maintain paths and trails.
- Care for landscape equipment, including tools, hoses, wheelbarrows, and various structures.

Interfaces with other teams and community members:

- Work with and support BAG's responsibilities regarding the stormwater system
- Invite BAG's input regarding courtyard and 3rd floor planters.
- Respond to R&M's concerns regarding **elements of the landscape**, especially when they threaten or impinge on our buildings. Landscape Team will take responsibility for initiating all tree maintenance work; other community members or professionals may be involved from time to time.
- Work with, educate, and support community members who want to plant containers, to care for the garden areas next to their units, and to help care for other areas on the property.

Membership on the team:

- Landscape Team members are self-selecting, and all are welcome regardless of knowledge or experience. With its many areas of responsibility, the Team benefits from having many members with a variety of skills, interests, knowledge, and physical ability.
- Team meetings are always open, and input and offers of support with tasks and projects are welcome.
- The Team also welcomes, involves, and educates other community members during our Work Party tasks and projects.

Logistics:

- Team Lead serves at least one year, as the convener and organizer of our monthly meetings.
- A member of the Team takes meeting minutes, which are published in a timely manner to the community.
- The Team as a whole approves its budget proposal for the following year.
- A member of the Team tracks Landscape expenditures through the year, clarifies and records the different parts of our budget and expenses, and reports to the Team at least quarterly.

Addendum: See Land Use: Implementation and Modification Processes