

2019 DUG Membership



DUG Garden Level Membership Dues: The 1-Minute Summary

- Denver Urban Gardens provides many essential benefits for community gardens including maintaining the land use agreements with property owners and required liability insurance. Your \$25 Garden Level Membership Dues go directly to DUG to help sustain the organization so that DUG can continue to do its good work for your garden, DUG's network of 180 other community gardens, and for the broader local food system.
- Your Plot Fees are distinctly different and go directly to your garden to cover seasonal garden expenses like water and compost, as well as other projects your garden leadership determines to be necessary/beneficial.

DUG Garden Level Membership: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

- *Are the Garden Level Membership Dues Mandatory?* Yes. If gardeners are capable to pay these dues, we ask that they do so. If they can't pay the \$25, then they may write in a lesser amount that they can afford on the plot application.
- *If someone is truly unable to pay the Garden Level Membership Dues do they lose their plot?* No. It is important that the Garden Level Membership Dues, like the Plot Fee, do not cause any gardener financial hardship.
- *How do gardeners pay their Garden Level Membership Dues?* They can add the Dues to their Plot Fee and write 1 check.
- *Can Garden Level Membership be paid on the online plot application?* Yes.
- *If only some of our gardeners pay their dues and fees, will DUG automatically take the balance from the garden's account?* No. We will always ask the garden leaders before deducting funds from the garden's account. In July, we will reach out to your garden leaders, review what gardeners have paid and, if there is a shortfall, ask the garden leaders if they will agree to cover that difference from any surplus funds if the garden account if possible.
- *Our garden has plans to renovate and we want to save our surplus funds. Can we do this?* We ask that when looking at your garden's future plans, that you factor in all the "behind the scenes" work that DUG does for you garden, and balance helping to sustain DUG with future garden plans.
- *Is DUG a part of the City Government?* No. DUG is a private non-profit organization that operates independently from the City. However, we find it advantageous to partner with the City on many aspects of our work and the City is often our landowner partner on garden projects. DUG does not receive general operating funding from any of the cities where we work.
- *Can gardeners give more than the \$25 Garden Level Membership?* Yes! There are additional donation levels on the plot application as well as a "Germinators" level that offers the option to give on-line on a monthly basis. These donation options all allow gardeners to further support DUG, as well as their fellow gardeners that are unable to pay the full dues and fees due to financial hardship.