## Portland Community Gardens Program **SAFETY IN THE GARDEN**

**If there is a crime in progress**, if a serious threat or problem is developing, or if there is an emergency – <u>Call 9-1-1</u>

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**If there is a non-emergency park or garden-related problem**, you can call Portland Parks and Recreation Park Rangers or the non-emergency police number.

Park Rangers: 503-823-1637

Non-emergency police (24-hr number): 503-823-3333

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If any theft, vandalism, or suspicious activity happens in the garden it is important to file a police report. Filing a report helps alert the police to problems and can prompt them to increase patrols in the area.

You can file a police report online or by phone:

Online form: <a href="http://www.portlandonline.com/police/cor/">http://www.portlandonline.com/police/cor/</a>

By phone: 503-823-3333

Also please report theft, vandalism, and other incidents to the Community Gardens office at 503-823-1612.

## Other safety tips in the garden:

- 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
- Lock your car
- Keep gates and sheds locked and combinations tumbled
- Know your garden's neighbors and encourage them to keep an eye on the garden
- Invite community police to speak at your garden
- Encourage a higher presence of police around the garden by reporting any crimes
- Invite a friend to be in the garden with you if it makes you feel more comfortable
- Introduce yourself to fellow gardeners and interact with people in a positive, friendly manner.
- If there is a stranger in the garden, introducing yourself and asking about their garden is a good non-confrontational way of letting them know that plots are assigned and not open to the general public to come in and harvest.