

Ever wanted to try your hand at growing your own food but didn't know where to start? How about making good on that New Year's Resolution to incorporate more fruits and veggies into your diet? Or maybe you don't have much of a yard, and are looking for a cool place to hang out outdoors, plant some rows and shoot the breeze?



If you find yourself nodding along to any of the above questions, there is a place for you at Windmill Island Gardens' new Gezellige Tuin community garden, where we welcome ALL, whether you've got a few notches in your trowel or can't tell a bean from a beet.

We are more than the average rent-a-space community garden. Participants will attend biweekly hands-on gardening classes taught by Windmill Island Gardens horticulture assistant Savannah Weaver and a line-up of fun and knowledgeable guest presenters. You'll learn all the basics of gardening, how to preserve your produce, tips for cooking healthy meals, and more – and then get to put your knowledge to work in your very own garden plot at the foot of our beautiful De Zwaan windmill.

Sign up individually or as a family, or share a plot with a friend and split the membership fee! Seasonal membership is only \$25, with a sliding fee available to qualified applicants. Fencing, water, and tools will be provided, as well as 10 free plants for each participant while supplies last.

The name of our garden is a Dutch phrase that translates loosely to "cozy garden," but to leave it at that doesn't quite do it justice because the word "gezellige" has no true English equivalent. It encompasses comfort, togetherness, and warmth – it is the feeling of being relaxed and happy among friends. If you'd like to learn and grow (pun very much intended) in a fun, friendly, low-key environment this summer and experience the spirit of gezellige, write to [greenhouse@cityofholland.com](mailto:greenhouse@cityofholland.com) (subject: community garden) for more information.