**Statement of Guiding Principles**

*The fundamental principles that guide The Water Conservation Garden’s actions and assure consistency and accountability are:*

* *Education about plants, gardening, conservation, and environmental awareness in its broadest sense, is the number one priority of The Garden. Our public programs reflect the highest standards of excellence, effectiveness and accessibility.*
* *The Garden exists to affect positive change by promoting water conservation through its own efforts and in collaboration with others. Through a strong community outreach effort, we bring The Garden’s water conservation message to as many individuals and organizations within the community as possible.*
* *While The Garden’s facilities and botanical collection are the primary physical assets that are the foundations for its mission, The Garden uses these as supporting elements in its educational programs.*
* *The Garden develops its exhibits in accordance with the professional standards of botanical gardens and similar public outdoor educational venues. The provenance of all additions to The Garden’s plant collection is fully and accurately recorded.*
* *The Garden will be a good steward of its donors’ generosity and the community’s trust.*
* *The Garden and its operations will be managed with the highest level of professionalism and commitment to excellence in delivering its mission to the community.*
* *The function of the Board of Directors is to provide oversight, set policy, engage in fundraising, and ensure financial health.*