

# Community Garden Rules

*Ensuring an enjoyable gardening experience for all of the Community Garden participants is the primary goal of these rules and responsibilities. For this reason, please observe the rules of the garden and be a good neighbor.*

- The garden should be a safe place for gardeners. Do not bring anything that will compromise the safety of the garden.
- The Community Garden Steering Committee has the duty of enforcing rules and making decisions for the garden between annual meetings of all gardeners. They have authority to resolve conflicts, including refusing a plot to a gardener or dismissing a current gardener.
- Please check the bulletin board on the back of the Community Garden sign on a regular basis. It will contain a map showing where your plot is located as well as information concerning the garden – problems, classes, information, and notices. Feel free to post information you have and leave messages for other gardeners there.
- Teach your children to respect others' plots and not to waste water.
- Each person must reapply each year for a plot.
- You are responsible for the care and upkeep of your own plot. If you are unable to care for your plot for a period of time due to illness or vacation, please ask a family member or fellow gardener for help with weeding and harvesting.
- Generally visit your plot at least once each week.
- If you decide not to use your plot, please contact the Community Garden Steering Committee so it can be reassigned to someone on the waiting list. If there is no evidence of activity on your plot by June 1<sup>st</sup>, it will be reassigned. There are no refunds on plot fees paid.
- If your plot is overgrown with weeds, you will receive a warning. After one week of no action, your plot may be mowed and reassigned.
- Biodegradable mulch such as a compost, leaves, straw, and hay are encouraged. Carpet mulch is not allowed. Wood chips are not allowed because they do not biodegrade quickly. Black plastic is also not permitted.
- Please do not plant any invasive plants or herbs (see our website).

- No perennials will be permitted.
- Fences, stakes, and tomato cages for vining plants are permitted, but must be removed at the end of the season.
- Please do not put up brightly-colored fencing (for instance orange plastic construction fencing) around your plot.
- Small tillers with no more than 4 to 6 HP are permitted.
- Keep tall plants such as corn or sunflowers at the center of your plot so they do not shade your neighbor's plants. Keep vines and visitors out of neighboring plots.
- If you have a surplus of vegetables or fruits, you may want to donate to a nearby food pantry. A list of pantries can be found on the garden bulletin board.
- Do not pick from your neighbor's garden even if you think they have neglected their plot.
- Keep plot boundaries weeded and trash-free. If you are on a pathway, you are responsible to care for ½ of the pathway between you and your neighbor. Keep plot edges and fencing free of weeds that will go to seed. Do not put rocks and sticks in paths. Take them to the designated rock-and-stick area.
- You are responsible for bringing your own trash bags to dispose of pulled weeds and waste. Take your trash bags home to dispose of properly.
- Corner stakes and plot numbers must be left in place all season.
- Herbicides (weed killers) and pesticides are prohibited.
- No pets in the garden.
- Please park in the designated locations for each garden. Do not drive into the garden area. Parking will be in the North gravel lot or Southwest at the school. **DO NOT PARK IN GRASS!**