



# Community Garden Guidelines and Rules

## Member Responsibilities:

### 1. Have fun!

- In addition to having the opportunity to grow your own food, there is also the opportunity to talk with and learn from other gardeners. Enjoy the community atmosphere and enjoy the experience.

### 2. To respect the garden plots of others.

- Pick crops from your garden only unless you have made special arrangements with another plot owner.
- Organize the planting of your own crops so they will not sprawl into a neighbor's garden or walkways.
- Do not use fertilizers, insecticides, or weed repellants that will affect a neighbor's plot.
- Use the walkways provided. Do not walk through the garden plots of others.

### 3. To maintain the garden plot throughout the growing season.

- Have something planted in the garden plot by the end of May and plan to grow and/or harvest through the end of October (weather permitting).
- Regularly weed the garden plot and maintain a neat appearance in the garden plot.
- Dispose of weed and plant material in the community garden dumpster. Be sure to shake off all excess soil from the weeds before disposing of them in the dumpster. Keep all walkways free of debris. This includes plant material, litter, and rocks.
- Clear the garden plot at the end of the season. This includes plant material as well as any fencing or decorative garden pieces.
- Contact the church office if, for any reason, you cannot continue to maintain your plot through the growing season.
- Please harvest all produce that is ripe and ready to eat. If you are unable to use the produce that is ready to eat, donate the produce to a local food bank or a non-profit organization. THANKS!

### 4. Volunteer your time at the community garden site. You may want to help during:

- Spring work days to set up gardens and/or construct raised beds.
- Weed whacking of areas around the garden plots and raised beds.
- Fall work days to help to close the gardens for the winter.

## Garden Site Housekeeping Items:

- The community garden site is open from dawn to dusk during the growing season.
- Water is available from the rain bins at the site. Garden plants are hand-watered from the supply in the rain bin.
- Gardeners will not be permitted to use the well hydrant. Rainwater collection bins will be filled from the hydrant during a dry season.
- Stakes clearly mark in-ground plot corners. Please do not remove these stakes, as they mark the boundaries of the garden plots. Gardeners may add their own fence around their garden plot. Fences may not exceed 4 feet in height and must be removed at the end of the season.
- Access to the restroom at the side of the food bank building is by keyless entry. The code is 4,3,2,1.
- All crops that are planted must be legal to grow. Gardeners must abide by the Noxious Weed Laws of Pennsylvania.  
[http://www.ehow.com/list\\_6305155\\_pennsylvania-noxious-weed-control-laws.html](http://www.ehow.com/list_6305155_pennsylvania-noxious-weed-control-laws.html)
- The garden plots need to be cleared for the winter when the garden manager indicates that the gardens are closing for the season. This includes plant material, decorative material, and row markers -anything the gardener adds during the season.
- Family members are welcome to come to the garden site. Children must be supervised by an adult at all times. Children are encouraged to participate in the gardening experience but must also respect others' plots. Children should not walk through or handle the crops in other garden plots.
- Gardening tools may be stored in the shed at the site and should be clearly marked. The community garden manager is not responsible for lost or stolen tools.
- Produce from the gardens may not be sold, as the community gardens are not intended to be a commercial venture.
- If a gardener does not maintain his/her garden according to these guidelines, he/she will be notified of the problem. The gardener will have the opportunity to comply with the guidelines. Membership may be terminated if the gardener does not agree to abide by the guidelines.

*He makes grass grow for the cattle, and plants for man to cultivate -  
Bringing forth food from the earth. Psalm 104:14*