

EXAMPLE Community Garden Rules

These Rules are intended to allow our Gardeners to grow	fresh, healthy food in a thriving	garden; to
help create a sense of community amongst our Gardener	rs; and to allow the	Community
Garden to be a good neighbor and an asset to the larger	neighborhood.	

- 1. Gardeners will be civil, honest, and cooperative in dealing with the Landowner, the Garden's neighbors, fellow Gardeners, and the guests of fellow Gardeners.
- Each Gardener is responsible for maintenance and upkeep of the garden parcel. Watering,
 weeding, harvesting, lawn care and any other related maintenance are all the responsibility of
 the Gardener. If a participant is new to gardening, basic principles and instructions will be made
 available. All experienced Gardeners should willingly assist in the orientation of new Gardeners.
- 3. A cooperative work schedule will be formulated and communicated to the Gardeners via email (alternate, individual arrangements can be made if necessary). The work schedule will vary throughout the growing season as conditions change. Each Gardener will be assigned maintenance and upkeep tasks according to the work schedule.
- 4. The garden will be cared for regularly. It is the Gardener's responsibility to find a substitute if he or she is not able to perform their tasks in any given week. If a Gardener, or their designated substitute, fails to perform their scheduled work on more than 2 occasions per season, they will forego their claim to any harvested foods and no fees will be refunded (This rule can be reviewed by the Garden Committee on a case by case basis).
- 5. Gardeners entering into the contract agree to the principles of organic gardening and agree to utilize only organic gardening methods. Gardeners will check with a member of the Garden Committee before applying any fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, or rodenticides, even if labeled "organic." Use of compost, organic mulch, and weeding is always acceptable.
- 6. Gardeners agree to harvest produce and flowers in a responsible and proportionally fair manner. If an abundance of produce needs to be harvested, Gardeners will first coordinate with their fellow Gardeners to ensure equitable distribution.
- 7. A limited number of tools, hoses and watering equipment will be available for use during scheduled work times. All tools will be used with care. Gardeners may bring their own tools to the garden. Gardeners are responsible for any damage caused by tools they bring into the garden. Please coordinate with fellow Gardeners if additional tools are needed.
- 8. If there is vandalism, storm damage, or other damage to the garden, it is the responsibility of all Gardeners to help in cleaning up and restoring the garden to its prior condition in an expedient manner.

- 9. Gardeners may bring guests, including children, into the garden, provided that the guests comply with the Garden Rules. Gardeners will supervise any child under the age of sixteen. Gardeners will be responsible for the conduct of children and their guests including making sure they do not damage or interfere with gardening activities or otherwise engage in inappropriate conduct. A guest violation of these Rules will be treated as a violation by the Gardener.
- 10. At the end of the growing season, Gardeners are responsible for clearing plant material and leaving the parcel as they found it in the spring.
- 11. Garden fees are non-refundable and fees are due in full before the gardening season begins.
- 12. Each Gardener must complete a Gardener's Agreement form before any work in the garden can begin.
- 13. By entering into this contract, the Gardener understands to and agrees to abide by the elected Garden Committee's rules at all times. The Garden Committee will be made up of 5 Gardeners democratically elected in January of each year. This committee will agree upon a meeting schedule and will advertise to, and welcome the attendance of all members at these meetings. The committee will make decisions by quorum only, which will be a simple majority. At its discretion, the Garden Committee may terminate immediately the Gardener's right to participate in the garden. If that occurs, the Gardener must leave the garden area immediately and may not re-enter without the committee's permission.
- 14. The Gardener also agrees to respect and abide by the authority of the Head Gardener. The Garden Committee will elect, from outside its ranks, the Head Gardener at the time of general elections. The Head Gardener will be in charge of all day to day operations of the garden, and may make immediate management decisions when necessary in the absence of a Committee quorum. Additionally, the Head Gardener will be responsible for making schedules, managing a budget, developing contracts with outside agencies, short term expulsion of members, and other roles as assigned by Committee ruling. The Garden Committee will approve of all budgets, schedules, plans and member related decisions in non-emergency situations, and, in the event that poor discretion has been used, may terminate the Head Gardener.
- 15. Gardeners are encouraged to provide suggestions about garden operations to the Head Gardener or Garden Committee Members. Gardeners may contact the Head Gardener or Garden Committee members directly with any questions relating to day-to-day operational matters; however Gardeners will understand that all non-emergency decisions must be made by the Garden Committee.
- 16. The Gardener's Agreements with individual Gardeners are subject to the master Lease between the landlord who owns the garden's land and the ______Community Garden. As a result, if the landlord terminates the lease, the garden will close, and the Gardener's Agreement will terminate. At that time the Gardeners will no longer have access to the garden.

17.		Garden will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age, medical condition, ancestry, marital status, citizenship, sexual gender identity, or status as a veteran.		
18.	.8. Most importantly, the gardener agrees that theCommunity Garden will serve a bridge to foster relationships in thecommunity.			
2011 G	arden Committee			
Name:	Email Address:	Phone:		
2011 H	ead Gardener			
Name:	Email Address:	Phone:		