

Rules and Guidelines for Renting a Plot at Good Earth Community Garden

Please keep this copy for your information.

Good Earth is an organic community garden. We commit to make everyone's gardening experience positive, where personal respect, mutual harmony as well as a sense of community is shared by all. Please help us to make this community resource an enjoyable and educational opportunity by respecting other gardeners, as well as the plots and by offering the Community Garden help and support.

- * Plots are rented in the order applications are received.
- * Gardening may begin after attending **Mandatory** Orientation.
- * If plots have not been planted by June 1st, please contact garden manager. Otherwise, it will be considered abandoned and will be rented to another person. Rental fees will NOT be refunded.
- * Plots must be **cleaned out before December 1st**. Winterizing instructions will be posted.
- * Renters are asked to volunteer 4 hours a month to help in any way you are able. (See Volunteer opportunities). There will be monthly work parties starting in April as a way for everyone to contribute to the garden.

Good Gardening Principles:

1. Keep your garden within your assigned plot. **Weed regularly** to minimize spread of weeds.
2. Yard art must be below 12 inches. Stakes and trellises must be kept below 48 inches and must be placed as to not infringe on your neighbor's sunlight.
3. Plant only legal crops. Perennial plants may be planted with full understanding they must be pulled out by December 1st.
4. Plants and flowers, you grow are for your home use, **not for re-sale**.
5. Thick root plants are not allowed in the cinder block holes. (i.e., parsley, kale, perennials)
6. **Water appropriately** within your own plot. Avoid over-watering – see guideline handout. Make sure the water is turned off completely after use. Use of automatic watering systems and timers are NOT permitted.
7. **Harvest in a timely manner**. If your plot is not maintained properly, the Garden Manager will contact you. If no action is taken within a week after being contacted, the produce will be harvested and donated. A Cooler is provided in the shed for excess produce for local food bank.
8. Pesticides/herbicides are not permitted. **Only Use OMRI** (Organic Material Review Institute) products. Contact the Garden Manager if you have insect or plant disease. This is encouraged so any issue can be addressed for the health of the garden.
9. Compost/soil amendments are provided by Good Earth. **Do not bring in outside amendments**.
10. Clean and return all gardening tools, buckets, shovels, etc.
11. **Remove your trash** from the garden and take it home with you.
12. The one garbage can by the compost is for diseased plant material only.
13. Children must be supervised by an adult.
14. **NO:** Smoking, glass bottles, alcohol, loud music or loud cell phone talking. Be respectful of others.
15. Keep pathways free of hoses, tools & debris.
16. **ONLY** Service animals will be allowed in the garden as required by ADA. Dogs must be under control and "house broken". A dog post and water bowl are provided in front of the garden for non-service dogs.

If you have issues with another gardener, please try to work it out respectfully. If there is not a resolution, please contact the Garden Manager, and/or you may contact SCCGA in writing. A grievance policy is posted in the shed.

We are a community garden and encourage everyone to participate. We are happy to assist in any way. Those members who do not abide by these guidelines will be contacted by the Garden Manager. If there is no response, correction or request for help within a week Good Earth retains the right to dissolve the plot agreement, cancel membership and reassign the plot, with no refund of fees. If you find you cannot garden or comply with these guidelines due to personal circumstances, please contact the Garden Manager for assistance. We are willing to work with your individual needs.