



Community Garden Plot Guidelines

Participants plant at their own risk. The Park District is not responsible for theft, damage, vandalism or other acts of destruction or loss.

PLOT SIZE is 40' X 20'. All plots must be planted by May 31 and be cleared by October 31.

Preparation of the garden plot is highly dependent on the weather. The Crystal Lake Park District will cultivate the soil in the spring. You may rototill your plot for a finer soil. Each plot will be staked off and numbered. Do not remove stakes or numbers. You will be contacted via email when the plots are ready.

Please contact the Administrative Office if you cannot plant by May 31. If there is no evidence of activity at your plot by mid-June, the plot will be mowed and made available for rental.

PLOT CANCELLATIONS: Gardeners who choose to forfeit their plot must contact the garden registrar before May 1st to receive a refund, after that date no refunds will be given. If gardeners are found to be in non-compliance with the garden policies and regulations, they will be sent an email notifying them of any problems or complaints and asked to take action by a specified date.

ABANDONED PLOTS: if your plot has not been tended to (watered, weeded or produce harvested) for a consecutive period of 30 days, it will be deemed abandoned and made available for lease to another party.

PLOT SETUP and DESIGN cannot infringe on neighboring plots. Fences around plots are allowed, no higher than two feet. Fences must be easily movable and weed free. Fences should not touch the ground for easier weeding.

Due to state regulation, no chemical-based pesticides are allowed in the garden plots. No manure of any kind can be used in your garden plot. Out of respect for fellow gardeners, we recommend the use of organic products in the soil. Truck load dumping of compost, dirt or any material is not allowed.

PLOT SETUP and DESIGN (continued)

Plots must be gardened and maintained on a consistent basis. Gardeners whose plots are weedy or unattended will be notified either by email or in writing and asked to remedy the problems with their plot by a specified date. Do not place/plant any plants on the edge of your interior garden plot perimeter that will overgrow into the pathways.

WEEKLY WEEDING IS REQUIRED Failure to maintain your garden plot may result in losing your plot. Do not allow plots to become overgrown. Place pulled weeds in the designated compost area. Do not toss weeds into an adjacent plot. All weeds need to be removed up to the grass line. If weeds become overgrown (over 1 foot) or are growing into another plot, the Park District reserves the right to cut down your entire plot.

TRASH must be picked up from your plot. Trash barrels are located throughout the garden plots. Barrels are to be used for trash only, not plant material. Plant waste can be discarded in the marked compost area. Rocks can be placed in the blue buckets with holes in the bottom, either in the corner of your plot or next to the garbage barrels. Do not put rocks in garbage barrels.

WATER is available on site but must be hand carried to your plot. Do not keep Park District provided wagons and donated buckets. These are provided for all to use, please return them when finished. There are no garden hose hook-ups from the water source allowed. All standing water containers left in your plot must always be covered.

PARKING is not allowed on driving paths. Do not block pathways. The paths should be used to drop off supplies at your plot. If there is excessive rain fall, do not drive on gravel paths as it creates ruts in the pathways.

CHILDREN must be accompanied by an adult in the garden. Do not leave children unsupervised.

DOGS must be leashed and kept out of other gardener's plots. You are responsible for cleaning up after your dog.

ALCOHOL is not allowed in garden plots.

VIOLATION of any Crystal Lake Park District ordinances or park regulations may result in a fine, impoundment of equipment and forfeiture of your garden plot. Plot owners will be notified immediately regarding any violations and will be given one week to correct the violation. Please contact Park District office if any violations of these guidelines or Crystal Lake Park District ordinances are observed.

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