

Johnson Creek Community Garden

There are currently 10 plots available

Rules and Regulations

We want everyone to have a good experience in the gardens. All gardeners should show respect for their garden neighbors at all times. The following are our most important rules:

1. **Theft:** Do not take anything from any plot other than your own even if you think it is abandoned. No warning is given, and this offense is immediately referred to the garden chairs.
2. **Trespassing:** Do not enter any plot other than your own unless invited. The paths are intended for you to navigate throughout the garden.
3. **Boundaries:** Do not plant outside of the boundaries of your plot.
4. **Tools:** Do not keep the community tools or carts in your plot or take them home. The tools and carts are for all gardeners. The garden tools in the shed on the west side of the gardens are for everyone to use. The shed will be open from 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM every day. If you plan to garden in the evenings, just notify myself.
5. **Weeds:** You must control weeds in your garden plot and remove them before they go to seed and spread to neighboring plots. Do not toss your weeds on the paths or in the uncultivated fields. A weed pile will be designated and brown bags will be available that can be filled with weeds and will be taken to the village dump site.
6. **Water:** Take care in using the water system. Do not leave water running unattended and always turn it off before leaving the gardens.
7. **Hose:** Once you have turned off the water by the hydrant, the hose will also be turned off. If you notice a leak in the hose, please notify me so I can have the school maintenance person fix it.

Get to know your neighbors. If you see strangers in your neighbors' plots, email me. If you and a neighbor have a dispute, discuss it respectfully, and email me if you are not able to solve the problem on your own.

New gardeners are often overwhelmed by how quickly weeds will grow and things can get out of hand. If you feel that you are losing control of your plot, the weeds are winning the war, please notify me and we can try to help you get control of the situation. WE WANT ALL GARDENERS to have a successful yield and an enjoyable experience.

Failure to comply with these rules will result in:

- a. An initial warning with recommended changes
- b. Review of issues by the garden committee with potential loss of privileges
- c. Confiscation of plot and a ban from the community garden

Address all questions and concerns to the garden facilitator, Bob Greene at greener@uww.edu

Pathways and Boundaries:

Be sure to keep tools and other items out of the way of other gardeners. Always walk only on the pathways, not between or through other plots. The plots are numbered, please do not remove the numbered plots signs, they will be removed when the gardening season is over.

When watering, please do not run the hose through another plot, the hose should be placed along the pathways.

You may create trellis's or support structures but they must be sturdy so they will not fall over onto another gardener's plot. They must be removed at the end of the garden season regardless if you plan to maintain the same plot the following season. And absolutely no fences between plots.

Gardening Practices:

Organic gardening: These gardens are intended to be used as organic gardens therefore, no pesticides or fertilizers may be used.

Use of Organic materials: Gardeners may use organic materials such as straw, compost, cut grass, seaweed, etc. on the plots. Periodically, straw will be made available in bails as well as compost.

Weeds: Weeds must be kept under control. If your garden is identified as a weedy garden, you will be notified via email and given two weeks to clear out the weeds. If you do not remove the weeds within the two- week period, your garden will be considered abandoned, and your plot will be confiscated. Your plot will then be plowed over and your registration fee will not be reimbursed.

Zone 5: Our garden is located in Zone 5 according to Purdue University's Extension program. Zone 5 has a medium length growing season with the last frost usually around May 15th and the first frost approximately Oct. 15th. Most vegetable varieties have no problem maturing before the first frost date. As a rule of thumb, most gardeners begin planting in early May and no later than June 1st.