

Sunset Community Garden 2024 Rules

An organic garden using best practices for a healthy community

Email: info@sunsetcommunitygarden.com www.sunsetcommunitygarden.com

Garden is open February – October 31st and closed Nov. 1st – January 31st.

Annual Registration: Assigned plots may be accessed after registration is completed and paid in full. The garden is open from dawn to dusk. **Annual renewal: Gardeners in good standing* can renew their garden space by notifying the board of their intent to return by fall cleanup.**

Lock Combination and Security: Each gardener will be provided with the combination for the lock on the front gate. Please only share with authorized individuals noted on your lease agreement. **Once you have opened the gate, please attach the open lock back onto the gate, and re-lock it until you exit the garden.**

GARDEN PLOTS

Use of Own Plot: Gardeners may use only the plots assigned to them. Organic methods only. NO synthetic chemicals. Organic fertilizers are allowed. Gardeners will maintain their plants as seasonally appropriate and will trim any plants that extend into neighboring plots or into common areas. Keep tall plants such as corn or sunflowers at the center of your plot so they do not shade your neighbor's plants.

Absence/abandonment: Abandonment means failing to maintain a plot for 2 consecutive weeks. If a Gardener expects to be away from the Garden for more than 2 weeks, he or she must inform the board and make arrangements for care during their absence. When a garden space is unattended, the plot holder will be contacted and asked to take care of the space by a certain date. If the garden board contacts a plot holder about an unattended garden space two times in one year and it becomes unattended a third time, the plots will be reassigned.

Plot restrictions: Gardeners may not alter the dimensions of their plot or grow anything adjacent to or outside of their assigned plots. Invasive or illegal plants like raspberries and marijuana may not be planted in the garden. If an invasive or illegal plant is found in the garden area, it is at the discretion of the Garden board to remove the plants and notify the gardener.

WATER & TOOLS

Gardeners are responsible for watering their own plot and be mindful of the effect on neighboring plots. Gardeners will not overwater their plants or leave a hose, an open hose bib, or running water unattended and are responsible to turn the faucets off before leaving the garden, even if other gardeners are present. Never water others' garden spaces without permission.

Report water leaks to info@sunsetcommunitygarden.com The cost of water is included in the cost of plot rental; any excessive water usage may cause the cost of plot rental to increase the following year.

Tools: Gardeners may bring their own tools into the Garden to use in their plots, but they cannot store tools in the Garden. Gardeners may not use tools that require gasoline or electricity. However, battery operated tools, like a cordless screwdriver are permissible.

PLOT HEALTH & MAINTENANCE

Gardeners will maintain their assigned plots and adjacent paths in a clean and neat fashion, promptly removing any weeds, overgrowth, or issues of concern. Gardeners will *promptly* harvest edible plants and remove rotting or

diseased plants including over ripened or rotting fruit.

Gardeners are responsible for disposing of plants, weeds, trash in the appropriate bins provided.

Smoking or fires are not permitted in the garden.

Contagious Diseases or Pests: If plants have a contagious disease or pest infestation that are deemed a threat to the health of the garden community, the gardener will be notified with a request for timely or immediate removal. If the gardener does not respond in a timely manner, the garden board has the authority to take appropriate and preemptive action as necessary.

Fall Clean Up: Returning Gardener's must clean out their assigned plots by the end of the gardening season. **Gardener's not returning for the next season, must clean out all assigned plots by October 10th.**

COMMUNICATION & CONDUCT

General Conduct: Gardeners are expected to be civil, honest, and cooperative in dealing with the Landowner, Sponsor, Garden neighbors, other Gardeners, and guests of *other Gardeners*.

Pets: Gardeners may not bring any pets or animals into the Garden.

Guests: Gardeners may bring guests, including children, into the Garden, provided that the guests comply with the 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 activities on other plots or otherwise engage in inappropriate conduct. Guest violations of these Rules are treated as violations by the Gardener.

RIGHTS & CONDITIONS:

Right to Garden: Gardeners have a temporary right to garden in their assigned plots as identified in the official registration. The landowner (Sunset Community Church) has the right to terminate the Registration Agreements at any time and will notify the gardeners. If terminated, your right to garden will end.

Failure to Comply: By signing the liability waiver, gardeners agreed to have read a copy of the Garden Rules and agreed to comply with them. If any gardener fails to obey the agreements or the Garden Rules, the garden board may terminate their right to garden.

- **A gardener in good standing is a gardener who has no outstanding plot compliance issues at the end of yearly Fall cleanup.**

Refunds: You understand that you will not get a refund or reimbursement for your expenses, or any other payment if you decide not to garden or if the Garden Board terminates your right to garden, even if you spend a lot of time and money on the garden.

All concerns and issues should be brought to the attention of the board along with suggestions and recommendations for improvements. Email concerns to info@sunsetcommunitygarden.com

Gardeners may NOT enter, weed or water other plots, use another Gardener's tools or supplies, or harvest another Gardener's produce, without the explicit permission of the "owner" Gardener.

Updated: 1-17-2024

Scan Date:

Website: www.sunsetcommunitygarden.com Email: info@sunsetcommunitygarden.com

REGISTRATION: Opens February 1st and Closes May 31st

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip Code: _____ Email: _____

Requested Row # _____ Plot (s) # _____

Phone (Cell): _____ Phone (Other): _____

Payment by check #: _____, AMOUNT: _____ included with this form.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO **SUNSET COMMUNITY CHURCH**. Each Plot (5' X 4') is \$20.00 per year with a maximum of 8 plots per gardener. Funds for the 2024 gardening season will be collected at Registration. All funds received will go toward expenses of the community garden (Water bills, Repairs & Associated costs)

GARDEN SEASON: The deadline date for plot assignment is June 1st.

- ❖ Registration begins in February on a first come first serve basis.
- ❖ Returning gardeners, in good standing, can be reassigned their existing plot(s).

SPRING/SUMMER: Planting begins in early February.

- ❖ All assigned plots must be planted by June 1st and maintained in a timely manner per garden rules.

FALL CLEANUP: ALL Plots must be cleaned out by October 31, 2024.

- ❖ Gardeners, **not returning**, must clear assigned plots of all plant matter by **October 10th**.
- ❖ Returning Gardeners must clear assigned plots of all plant matter by October 31st.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY BELOW THIS LINE:

Amount Received: _____ Date: _____ Check#: _____

Received By: _____ Row #: _____ Plot(s)#: _____

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Scan Date:

Release of Liability

I, _____, am a participant in the Sunset Community Garden. As a condition of being allowed to participate in the Community Garden, **I agree to the following:**

1. I am duly aware of the risks and hazards that may arise through participation in the Community Garden and assume any expenses and liabilities I and my guest incur in the event of an accident, illness or other incapacity.
2. I have read and agree to adhere to the Sunset Community Garden Rules and if I have had any questions about the Community Garden, its nature, risks or hazards, I have contacted the garden board to discuss my questions with them. Email: info@sunsetcommunitygarden.com
3. In consideration of being granted the opportunity to participate in the Community Garden, I for myself, my executors, administrators, agents and assigns do hereby release and forever discharge the Garden Committee, Garden Coordinator, volunteers, other gardeners and the cooperating landowner from all claims of damages, demands, and any actions whatsoever, including those based on negligence, in any manner arising out of my participation in this activity. I understand that the release means that among other things, I and my guests, are giving up our right to sue for any such losses, damages, injury or costs that we may incur.
4. I represent and certify that my true age is 18 years old or, if I am under 18 years old on this date, my parent or legal guardian has read and signed this form. I have read the entire release and fully understand it. I agree to be legally bound by it.

Participants Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____ Phone Number _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____ Phone Number _____

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