

CLINTON COMMUNITY GARDEN - REAR GARDEN RULES

The rules below were written and revised over the past years to ensure that all of us garden in a neighborly way, share our community garden's resources equitably, and help take care of the garden as a whole. All of us gardeners are expected to follow and enforce the Front and Rear Garden rules. Remember that you don't own your plot. It is a privilege that can be taken away if you don't follow the rules. Changes to the rules will be voted on by the Steering Committee and posted on the Tool Shed bulletin board and on our website at www.clintongarden.org.

1. Do not take or pick anything from another gardener's plot.
2. Starting May 1, you should be regularly planting, weeding, watering, and harvesting at your plot at least once a week. If you are ill or on vacation, ask another rear gardener to water and tend your plot, or contact a Steering Committee member to help you find a "garden sitter" during your absence.
3. From May through September, Steering Committee members will periodically inspect all plots
4. Warning Notices and Plot Reassignment: If a plot looks untended, a first warning is mailed out. The plot holder is given ten days to get back to gardening. If the plot still shows no signs of active gardening, a second warning will be mailed and the gardener will be given another 10 days. If the plot is *still* not being gardened—after 2 warnings and 20 days—the plot will be reassigned to the next person on the waiting list. Members of the Steering Committee will attempt to notify the gardener whose plot is being reassigned by phoning three times on three different days.
5. Trees and tall shrubs are not allowed in rear garden plots. Woody shrubs can be no taller than 3 feet and must not have roots that grow beyond your plot. Woody shrubs may only be planted with prior approval of the Steering Committee. Roses are the only exception.
6. Do not build permanent towers or leave holes. Simple trellises are acceptable on one side of a garden plot. Enclosed structures are not permitted. Holes should be filled promptly.
7. You must weed the pathway that borders all sides of your plot and keep the pathway clear of debris and overgrown plants. You are responsible for taking care of the brick path bordering your plot up to the halfway point between you and your neighbor. Low-growing ground covers, such as moss and creeping thyme, are encouraged. Using sand between bricks will keep weeds at bay. Plot borders must not extend into the Center Garden's permanent dividing paths. Pots, window boxes, and other
8. Containers must not be placed on the walkways as a way to extend your plot. Be considerate of all who walk past your plot. Prune, tie back, or transplant errant plants—especially if they are thorny.
9. You must replace and clean all tools and hoses after you use them. Tools may not be removed from the garden. Hoses must be neatly rewound after use and placed on their retainer. Take care not to damage someone else's plants when you are pulling a hose to your plot.
10. Do compost according to guidelines. These guidelines are posted on the compost bins in front and back. Please read the signs before you compost.
11. You may sublet. A plot may be sublet once every 7 years with Steering Committee approval. The sublet will be assigned by the Steering Committee from the waiting list. To sublet your plot, send a written request to the Steering Committee to assign the plot to another gardener for one year.
12. All back gardeners are asked to give at least 10 hours a year. The garden is an all-volunteer effort, and all gardeners are expected to help maintain it. Some of the many tasks that must be done regularly to keep the garden functioning and beautiful are: mowing, composting, taking out the garbage, leaf-raking, and sidewalk-sweeping. We also have many events during the season that require set-up, staffing, and breakdown. Contact a Steering Committee member (see the bulletin board in the front garden) or send an e-mail to: clintongarden@gmail.com to find out what you can help with. Make sure we have your current e-mail address and phone number so we can keep you posted on garden needs and events.
13. You may bring guests. Visitors to the Rear Garden are welcome but must be accompanied by a member of the Garden. You are responsible for making sure your guests, both adults and children, understand and follow all of our garden rules.

(CHECK BOX ON ATTACHED FORM) I have read and will abide by these rules and the general rules governing the garden. Please sign and return the renewal form on the reverse side of this document or before the due date. A copy of the "Rear Garden Plot Holder Rules" can be downloaded and printed from our website "Forms" section at www.clintongarden.org.

LIST OF BASIC GARDEN DUTIES

Select your preference by number and put on attached form with three choices.

1. **Garbage & Recycling** – Empty garden garbage cans and recycling bins on a regular basis from April through October.
2. **Composting A Kitchen Scrap**– For this job, you must be available one Saturday a month, March through July OR August through December, to staff compost collection, and you will need to have a compost lesson before you start.
Composting B Garden Cuttings – For this job, you must be available one Saturday a month, April to September, to assist moving and arranging garden twigs, leaves, cuttings.
3. **Summer Sidewalk Sweeping** – Sweep the sidewalk in front of the garden on a regular basis, from April through October.
4. **Winter Sidewalk Sweeping** – As needed, sweep front sidewalk and clear litter from garden. Sweep front garden brick pathways. When necessary, shovel snow and break up ice from front sidewalk and garden paths, empty garbage and recycling bins, and sweep front sidewalk (November through March).
5. **Lawn Care / Path Weeding** – Assist with lawn care and weeding of front brick paths, as needed (probably twice a month during the growing season).
6. **Public Events** – A range of jobs, including coordinating a garden events (4th of July Picnic, Ninth Avenue Food Festival, May Pole celebration, Harvest Celebration, special events, etc.); helping with shopping, setup and takedown, or food serving; and chaperoning approved private events, such as a wedding ceremony.
7. **Open Hours Hosting** – Welcome visitors and supervise the front garden when the gate is open on Saturdays and Sundays from April to October. You must be available for a block of 2 to 3 hours on a Saturday or Sunday during this time.
8. **Night Lock** – Unlock the front-gate padlock every morning and lock it in the evening. Hours vary depending upon time of year, daylight availability or weather, year-round, according to a daily schedule (team members have assigned days).You may select morning, evening or both.
9. **Tool-Shed Maintenance** – Clean up the tool shed on a monthly basis or as needed. This also includes the area around the tool shed
10. **Maintenance** –Refinish benches, clean up graffiti, make repairs, fix hoses, etc. You'll be contacted as needed and also be asked to be backup for other maintenance teams.
11. **Handyman** – A new category for people with professional skills and ability, i.e. carpentry, painting, sign-making, plumbing, electrician, tree-trimming, event-planning, equipment repair, printing, etc.
12. **Clerical** – Assist with mailings, envelope stuffing, letter folding, data-entry, calendar maintenance, word processing or spreadsheet management, social media maintenance, website assistance
13. **Serve on Steering Committee.**