

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

1. Garbage & Recycling --

Empty garden garbage cans and recycling bins on a regular basis, throughout the year.

2. Composting (both A and B) --

A Kitchen Scrap: 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.

B Garden Cuttings: you must be available one Saturday a month (April through September) to assist moving and arranging garden twigs, leaves, cuttings.

3. Sidewalks (both Summer and Winter) –

Sweep the sidewalk in front of the garden on a regular basis, throughout the year.

4. Lawns & Paths –

As needed, clear litter from garden, and sweep front garden brick pathways. See to the maintenance of the front garden lawns and assist with winter maintenance of public areas.

5. Events –

A range of jobs, including coordinating garden events (4th of July Picnic, 9th Ave. Food Festival); helping with shopping, set-up and take-down, or food serving; chaperoning approved private events such as weddings.

6. 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.

7. Front Gate Lockup –

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.

8. Shed –

Clean up the tool shed on a monthly basis or as needed. Includes area around the tool shed. See to the maintenance and inventory of tools and supplies.

9. Handy Maintenance –

General work on refinishing, cleaning, repairs on various garden equipment and fixtures (benches, hoses, etc.) Especially appreciated are people with professional skills, i.e. carpentry, plumbing, electric, tree-trimming. Will be contacted as needed.

10. Clerical –

Assist with mailings, data-entry, calendar maintenance, word-processing and spreadsheets, social media, and website.