

Community Garden Rules

Camden County Library District

- The garden should be a safe place for the community, children, and other gardeners. Do not bring anything that will compromise the safety of the garden.
- Ensuring enjoyable gardening experience for all of the garden community is the primary goal of these rules and responsibilities. For this reason, observe the rules of the garden, and be a good neighbor.
- The Library Director has the duty of enforcing rules and making decisions for the garden between annual meetings of all gardeners. He has authority to resolve conflicts, including refusing a plot to a gardener or dismissing a current gardener.
- Teach your children to respect others' plots and not to waste water.
- Unresolved issues or disputes between gardeners will be referred to the Library Director.
- Each person must apply each year for a plot but returning gardeners will be given first preference and permitted to keep the same plot if they wish. The number of plots per gardener may be limited according to demand.
- You are responsible for your own plot and 4 hours of volunteer work (contributing to the upkeep of the whole garden.)
- If you are unable to care for your plot for a time because of illness or vacation, ask a fellow gardener or the coordinator for help with weeding and harvesting.
- Generally visit your plot at least once each week.
- If you decide not to use your plot, please contact the library so it may be reassigned to someone on the waiting list. If there is no evidence of activity at your plot by June 1st, it will be reassigned.
- If your plot is overgrown with weeds, you will receive a warning. After one week of no action, your plot may be mowed and reassigned.

- ☐ Biodegradable mulch such as compost, leaves, straw, and hay are encouraged. Carpet mulch is not allowed. Remove any non organic mulch by closing day. No wood chips as mulch. They do not biodegrade quickly. Black plastic is allowed, but must be removed at the end of the season.
- ☐ If your plant mint, catnip, Jerusalem artichokes, comfrey or raspberries, you must control it so it stays inside your plot.
- ☐ Keep tall plants such as corn or sunflowers at the center of your plot so they do not shade your neighbors plants.
- ☐ Keep vines and visitors out of neighboring plots.
- ☐ Do not pick from your neighbor's garden even if you think they have neglected their plot.
- ☐ The garden is not available for commercial use; don't sell your produce.
- ☐ Keep plot boundaries weeded and trash-free. If you are on a pathway, you are responsible to care for 1/2 of the pathway between you and your neighbor. Keep plot edges and fencing free of weeds that will go to seed. Don't put rocks and sticks in paths. Take them to the rock-and-stick area.
- ☐ Compost made from leaves is available at the garden. Weeds and diseased plants should be put in plant refuse piles - not on the compost pile.
- ☐ If you use the garden's tools (if available), please return them to the storage area when done.
- ☐ Plant refuse piles are set up for weeds and diseased plants. Please use these designated areas. No trash in the piles, please. Please do not add kitchen scraps to the plant refuse piles because they are likely to draw animals.
- ☐ Pack your trash back home to dispose of properly.
- ☐ Please place a sign in your raised plot with your name and number in case you need to be contacted.
- ☐ The gardens are divided into organic and non-organic sections. No artificial herbicide or pesticide use is allowed in the organic section. In the non-organic section, herbicides and pesticides may be used, but not on windy days when the spray may drift off of your plot. If you spray and you see your mist leave your plot, please stop until the wind dies down.
- ☐ No pets in the garden.

- Do not drive into the garden area.
- Water for irrigation is available in the rainwater tanks in the gardens. Do not fill containers in the library's bathrooms.
- At the beginning of the Community Garden Project, resources are very limited. Library equipment is not available for garden use. Please plan to bring as many tools and containers as you need to successfully tend your garden. You are expected to be self-sufficient.
- The Camden County Library District is not liable for accidents, theft, critters, frost, tornados, hail, floods, drought, earthquakes, plagues of insects or other acts of God. Use of the garden is AT YOUR OWN RISK.

Revised March 2016