

COMMUNITY GARDEN RULES & GUIDELINES

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INTRODUCTION

The Franklin Park Conservatory Community Garden (FPCCG) is managed by the Growing to Green (G2G) Program. It is located in the Scotts Miracle-Gro Company Community Garden Campus and offers a variety of benefits to its communities. Not only does it improve access to fresh food but it serves as a space for neighbors to connect and reflect on nature's beauty. This garden serves as a model for participants in the Conservatory's G2G program. FPCCG requires all gardeners to read and abide by the following rules and guidelines to ensure the growth of the gardening community as well as the continuation of plot ownership.

RULES & GUIDELINES

1. The garden is open from dawn to dusk seven days a week. The combination for the lock on the shed will be given to members and will be changed annually or as needed. The growing season starts April 1st and plots must be cleared out by November 1st.
 - Tools are provided in the shed, if additional tools are needed you can make this request to the Growing to Green Educator.
 - Make sure to close and lock the shed after you enter and when you exit.
 - Notify the Growing to Green Educator of illegal activity, such as theft, that occurs after calling **security at 614-715-8166**. Friends and family members are permitted into the garden, but are under your supervision and must adhere to the rules and regulations.
 - Children under 14 must be supervised at all times while in the garden.
2. Each plot may be registered to a single plot holder or a double plot holder, up to two plot holder assistants are allowed per plot.
 - Subletting is **NOT** permitted.
3. Abandoned plots may **NOT** be refunded after the start of the growing season.
4. For eligible plot holders, registration starts on **March 1st**.
 - Open registration starts on **March 15th** if there are open plots.

5. Smoking, chewing tobacco, and open flames are **NOT** allowed in the garden. Tobacco is a carrier of the Tomato Mosaic Virus which can kill many common vegetable crops.
6. Plots have been marked for the reason of individual plot recognition.
 - Please do not move the markers.
7. As the FPCCG is a community garden, members are expected to partake in certain maintenance to ensure that the garden is a beautiful, well-kept area for everyone. Such maintenance items are:
 - Keeping equipment and site in good condition (general maintenance).
 - Weeding and cleaning the gardener's plots and pathways of the garden.
 - Picking up trash/litter
8. Weeds and diseased plant material should be placed in black refuse bins. Do **NOT** place it in the compost area. (Bins are provided in the shed).
9. Non-selective herbicides (like Roundup) are **NOT** allowed in the garden.
10. Plots may be arranged to the tender's whim, but certain regulations do apply:
 - No permanent structures are permitted (concrete, bricks, and mortar).
 - All structures and vegetation must not cross into, or shade, another plot.
 - i. Nothing over 6ft tall.
 - Any materials must be brought by the plot holder.
11. Plot tenders are responsible for the maintenance and harvesting of their plot.
 - Do **NOT** harvest from other plots or public spaces.
12. Watering, weeding, harvesting, and any other garden-related maintenance are all the responsibilities of the gardener.
13. If you will be away for an extended amount of time, notify the Growing to Green Educator.
 - Plot holders can arrange for other plot holder assistants to watch over their plot while they are gone.
14. Trash and compost bins will be provided.
15. Notify the G2G Educator if you find any leaks in hoses or damaged tools.
16. The bulletin board is for garden business only, soliciting is not allowed.
17. **Immediate assistance? Call Security: 614-715-8166**
 - For any emergencies, theft, suspicious behavior, and assistance with the shed key or lock. For life-threatening emergencies **call 911** and then alert Security to guide emergency services to your location.

VIOLATION POLICIES

The rules and regulations are in place so the FPCCG garden can grow, provide a healthy community atmosphere, and function as a pleasant place to garden as a community. Compliance with the rules and regulations of the FPCCG garden, detailed here, will ensure that the community garden grows and

succeeds. Violations of the rules are regulated; any such violations will be dealt with by the Growing to Green Educator. If a violation occurs, such will be the immediate effects:

1. If garden maintenance rules are ignored, you will be required to forfeit the plot. As outlined below, these are the conditions under which plot forfeiture will occur:
 - a. The plot is not maintained for three weeks.
 - b. Transferring or subletting of a plot.
 - c. Violation warnings are ignored, and violations are repeated.
 - d. Act in a threatening or abusive manner to other gardeners. No bullying.
2. Violation Procedures.
 - a. When a violation occurs, the G2G Educator will send the plot holder a warning. The warning will have the violation details and the deadline set for the plot tender to fix the problem.

ELIGIBILITY STATUS FOR PLOT RENEWAL

To become eligible for renewing the registration for a plot for the next season the following requirements must be met:

1. A minimum of **25 hours** of volunteer engagement for a registered single plot. A minimum of **35 hours** of volunteer engagement must be recorded for a double registered plot.
2. At the end of the growing season all staking, fencing, caging, and pavers must be removed by November 1st.
 - a. There is to be no personal storage of property in the shed.
 - b. Season extension can be approved upon request.
 - c. Perennial crops may be planted (ornamental and edible).

VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

The FPCCG serves as a model for community gardens in Central Ohio. As an equal part community to garden, a commitment of engagement from its plot holders is essential. Engagement can enhance the gardening experience with fellowship, learning, and connectivity.

1. Volunteer engagement hours are defined as time:
 - a. Maintaining personal plot.
 - b. Maintaining public space in the FPCCG.
 - c. Volunteering on the Main FPC Campus.
 - d. Engaging with other community gardeners in educational/social/work events at FPCCG.
2. Volunteer Engagement Hour Management must be recorded through Volgistics.

a. Email to G2G Educator: lpreston@fpconservatory.org