

# Frequently Asked Questions

*Revised 03/25/19*

## **What is a community garden all about?**

We are groups of individuals and families of diverse backgrounds who choose to garden together. We welcome all people; with little or a lot of gardening experience. Each household gets a garden plot to tend and contributes some volunteer hours to help run the garden. Community gardeners maintain paths, mow, hold meetings, elect chairs, and divide all tasks among us. Our gardens have no paid staff people, so we all pitch in by volunteering for different tasks.

## **How many plots can I get?**

It depends on how many gardeners sign up for plots. Most gardens should have room for everyone to have at least one. You may request additional plots and staff will honor your request as space allows. Returning gardeners may request to keep the plot(s) they gardened the previous year.

## **What do I get when I sign up?**

- A plot of approximately 20' x 20' or 10' x 20' for your use during the season
- A supportive environment for learning about gardening and meeting neighbors!
- Spring rototilling of the plot

## **How much does it cost?**

Payment for plots is set to be affordable for everyone while still collecting enough money to become self sustaining. Fee is \$30 for a full 20 x 20 plot and \$25 for a half plot of 10 x 20.

## **Are the gardens organic?**

There are different meanings of "organic gardening." No herbicides (like Round-Up) are ever allowed in the gardens. Compost and organic fertilizers are encouraged. If you are unsure about a particular product, contact the garden coordinator for the garden to find out if you can use it.

## **What about people who have never gardened before?**

One of the greatest benefits of community gardening is learning from other gardeners. The most important thing is to ask for help and suggestions from your fellow gardeners. It's a lot of fun! Experienced gardeners are usually quite glad to share their knowledge and skills with gardening novices. Flatter experienced gardeners with your questions! Also, check out the public library for hundreds of books on how to garden.

## **How much time does it take?**

Gardening is fun, but it's also hard work. You have to weed, harvest, and maintain your plot. If you are going to be out of town for an extended period, you'll have to arrange for someone to tend your plot. Gardening also demands more time at different points in the season than others. If you don't think you can tend to your plot once a week, consider sharing with someone else.

## **Once I have a plot, what do I have to do?**

- Be a good neighbor by following the rules of the garden and maintaining your plot.
- Perform the required hours of voluntary-service for your garden.
- Enjoy the garden and the community of gardeners!