

Groveport Recreation Department

**Groveport Community Garden
Guidelines, Rules & Gardening Agreement**

(Revised 1/5/2021)

1. APPLICATION – Persons interested in planting a garden at the Groveport Community Garden shall make application. City of Groveport residents and persons who participated in the previous year, may apply beginning February 1 of the current year. If plots are available, non-residents may apply beginning March 1 of the current year. User shall be at least 18 years of age. Children may garden, but only under the supervision of the adult User. Persons may not purchase more than (2) plots for the season, unless approved by the Recreation Director.
2. FEES – A User will be charged \$10/year per plot. This fee is not refundable. The City of Groveport reserves the right to waive the fee for a person/family due to economic challenges.
3. PLOT MAP – Plots will be assigned by the City of Groveport. A plot map will be posted at the garden for gardeners to reference. Plots will be numbered and identified with a small flag.
4. ROSTER – A roster of all gardeners will be shared amongst gardeners so that participants may communicate with one another. In the event that a gardener goes on vacation, it is recommended that the gardener ask another gardener(s) to water his/her garden in his/her absence.
5. MAINTENANCE & UPKEEP – Each User is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of their garden plot during the garden season (early April thru Nov. 1, 5:00 PM). Tilling, soil development, watering, weeding, harvesting, and any other garden related maintenance are all the responsibility of the User. At the end of the growing season, Users are responsible for “putting their garden to bed”, and leaving the plot in good condition.
6. ABANDON – If User abandons his/her plot, User will notify the City of Groveport Recreation Department.
7. WEEDS – User agrees to keep weeds to a minimum and maintain the areas immediately surrounding his/her plot, if any.
8. UNKEPT – User understands that if his/her plot becomes unkept, User will be given (2) week’s notice to clean it up. If the plot is not cleaned up, it will be re-assigned or tilled in.
9. TOOLS – Users must provide their own gardening tools.
10. SAFETY – Plots must be kept safe at all times. If any condition is deemed unsafe, the City of Groveport will require the User to rectify the situation immediately. If the City has to intervene a second time, the User must relinquish his/her plot. The City of Groveport reserves the right to restrict a person’s access to their garden plot based on safety concerns or unwelcome behavior.
11. TRASH – User will keep trash and litter out of the plot, as well as from adjacent pathways and fences.
12. FALL CLEAN UP – User agrees to participate in the fall clean up of the garden.
13. CROPS – All crops grown must annual in nature be legal in the state of Ohio. Trees may not be grown.
14. SHADE – If tall plants are grown, please be considerate of your neighbors.
15. PICKING OF CROPS – User agrees to only pick his/her own crops unless given permission by another plot User.

16. FERTILIZERS, INSECTICIDES AND WEED REPELLENTS - The application of non-organic fertilizers, insecticides, weed repellents and any other poison are prohibited.
17. FENCES – Perimeter fences around each User’s garden are not permitted.
18. STRUCTURES – No structures may obscure vision throughout the garden. Exceptions are trellises and wire used to grow climbing plants, which may not exceed 6 feet. No treated wood may be used.
19. COMPOST PILE – A compost pile will be maintained. Please place all weeds, plant material, spoiled fruits or vegetables in the compost pile.
20. COMMUNICATION – The City of Groveport Recreation Department will use email as its primary source of communication with gardeners.
21. VOLUNTEER HOURS – User agrees to volunteer hours towards community gardening efforts, if necessary.
22. PETS – User agrees not to bring pets into the garden area.
23. WATER – A water resource is available in the garden (next to the red barn). Please use water responsibly. Due to possible damage to neighboring crops, over-watering and the fact that there is only one water spigot in the garden, hoses may **NOT** be used. Water must be carried in buckets or water cans to and from the water source. *It is recommended that if you have trouble carrying your water, place the water in buckets, place the buckets in a wagon and wheel the water to your plot.*
24. KEYS – User will receive a garden gate key and water key prior to the start of the growing season. Keys must be turned in at the end of the growing season. \$10 fee for lost keys.
25. ACCESS – Users may start to garden April 1 (tentative). The garden will close on Nov. 1 (5:00 PM). Access to the community garden is available from dawn to dusk, seven days a week during garden season.
26. PARKING – All vehicles must be parked in a designated parking lot. No driving is permitted on the grass beyond the pavement for any purpose. If you are unloading items, you may do so on the pavement, closest to the double gate. Once you have unloaded, please move your vehicle to a designated parking space. Please do not interfere with any traffic trying to enter or exit the park.
27. PARK RULES – Users shall follow all park rules.
28. LIABILITY – User understands that the City of Groveport is responsible for my actions or the actions of others. User agrees to hold harmless the City of Groveport for any liability, damage, loss or claim that occurs in connection with the use of the garden by User or User’s guests.
29. MISC. - The City of Groveport Recreation Department reserves the right to rule on any matter not specifically covered in the rules and to make any decision it deems as necessary for the best interest of the City of Groveport. This document is subject to change.
30. CITY OF GROVEPORT – The City of Groveport owns the property in which the community garden exists. All rules, ordinances & guidelines of the City of Groveport override any of the information in this document should it be determined that there is a conflict.