

Welcome to the



To strengthen the community by bringing people of all ages and cultures together to create a welcoming, sustainable garden.



Garden Patch Community Garden Application

Community Garden Rules and Regulations

Board member Contact: garden.patch@yahoo.com

The Garden Patch Community Garden (GPCG) is operated by its gardeners on property of the City of Avondale. Our continued use of this land depends on keeping the property well cared for as well as maintaining good relationships with the surrounding neighborhood(s). We must all respect the interest of our fellow gardeners. To promote the interest in gardening and to insure that the needs of the Garden and the requirements of our lease, our insurance policy and the relevant City of Avondale ordinances are met, the Garden Patch Community Garden requires all gardeners to read, acknowledge and abide by the following rules.

1. **Agreement and fee-** Completed, signed agreement and fee must be received prior to the date you start gardening. Fee schedule attached based on date of rental.

- Payments to be made by cash or by personal check which shall be made payable to The Garden Patch.
- Any returned checks fee imposed by the bank will be the responsibility of the gardener, plus a charge of \$30.00 for handling.
- Fees are payable on an announced and published schedule for the ensuing year. There is a grace period of 30 days. Annual fees not paid by the end of the grace period may result in termination of gardening privileges.

2. Garden hours are from dawn to dusk seven days a week and the tool shed will be open to gardeners during this period as well.

- Borrowed tools must be cleaned and returned to the storage area when done. No tools are to be taken home.
- Gates to the garden must be closed at all times with the exception of deliveries.
- Report any vandalism or theft to the Board or the Garden Coordinator immediately.
- Family members and friends are welcomed to the garden. Children under the age of 14 must be supervised

3. Plots are clearly marked with plot markers which are not to be removed.

4. Smoking, chewing tobacco and alcohol and/or any illegal substance is prohibited.
5. **Service Commitment**- Gardeners understand this is a community garden and in order for it to succeed gardener support is required to maintain the site, manage compost, keep equipment in good condition and work on additional items as needed.
 - All gardeners must work to keep the Garden site free of weeds and debris, as the use of the site is contingent on our ability to maintain it.
 - Check with the Garden Coordinator or the bulletin board for any pending chores or projects that need to be done
 - Gardeners are required to participate in a minimum of 3 clean up days per year. Time and dates will be posted at the Garden. Failure to attend may result in loss of gardening privileges.
6. **Weed/Plant Material**- must be disposed of in the designated compost area. Weeds that have flowered or any plant that is insect-infested or diseased must be disposed of in the trash container. The application of unapproved herbicides (weed killer) and pesticides in the garden is prohibited. Use of any of these substances is grounds for immediate forfeiture of privileges and your plot with no refund. Garbage and recycle bins as well as bulk pickup are provided as per the city schedule for the area.
7. **Planting Times**- Gardeners may plant when, how and what they would like to plant, and will receive a vegetable planting calendar based on our climate zone to aid in their plant selection per season.
8. **Animals**- Pets are not allowed in the garden with the exception of service animals.
9. **Watering**- Do your best to conserve our water. Drip irrigation though recommended is not mandatory. Make sure all faucets are turned off when you leave the Garden unless a timer is set on that faucet. Notify the Board or the Garden Coordinator immediately if there are any water leaks.
10. **Bulletin Board**- Usage for Garden Patch information or any garden-related items only. No form of non-gardening solicitation is allowed. Any question or feedback may be sent directly via email to garden.patch@yahoo.com
11. **Major Projects**- Proposals for large or permanent plantings or large projects/additions should be brought to a Garden meeting to discuss design, process, funding, maintenance and project details, before any work begins.
12. **Individual Plot Requirements**- Plot holders may establish their own layout of beds/paths within the dimensions of their assigned plots.
 - Beds may be raised up to maximum of 18" from path height.

- Support structures must be installed completely within the assigned plot and made of easily removable material.
- Installed structures must be temporary and cannot shade other plots.
- All required materials and costs are the sole responsibility of the plot holder.
- Each plot holder is responsible for the regular upkeep of their plot.
- Vegetation must be harvested in a timely manner. Any items not picked before they over-ripen will be left to the discretion of the Board to donate to a local food bank or to be disposed of.
- If you are unable to tend to your plot or will be absent for a period of time notify the Board or the Garden Coordinator, or you may arrange for other gardeners to tend to your plot in your absence with the understanding you are still solely responsible for the condition of the plot.

The cooperation of all gardeners is needed to ensure that the Garden Patch Community Garden runs smoothly and that we can maintain our obligations to our lease holders and neighbors. If a gardener violates the agreed-upon rules, the Board will address the violation as noted:

Violation Procedures- Failure to comply with the rules may result in the loss of gardening privileges. You must maintain your garden. If your plot remains unattended for more than a three-week period the Board will assume you have vacated /forfeited your plot, unless you have notified the Board/Garden Coordinator of your upcoming absence.

First notice- The Board will send the primary garden holder a first notice via email or by mail if email is not available, indicating the problem and the deadline for correction which is 15 calendar days from date of notice receipt.

Second notice- If the violation is not corrected within the guidelines above the Board will issue a second notice via email as well as certified mail. It will restate the issue and indicate the time frame in which it must be corrected, which is 10 calendar days from date of notice receipt.

Third notice- Final notice via phone/email/certified mail with a deadline of 5 days or the plot as well as all contents within the plot will be forfeited as well as gardening privileges, and no refund will be given.

Immediate Plot Forfeiture- You will be notified that you have forfeited your plot if you:

- Fail to comply with Rules #4, 5 or 6.
- Transfer or sublet your plot.
- Exhibit a pattern of behavior that shows disregard of Garden rules, such as repeated rule violations (ex: 3 violations within 2 years) even if remedied.

The Board has sole responsibility for sending out violation notices and verifying if rules are being held to Garden Patch standards. There will be no refunds for forfeited plots.

I understand that neither the garden group nor owners of the land are responsible for my actions. I therefore agree to hold harmless the garden group and owners of the land for any liability, damage, loss or claim that occurs in connection with the use of the garden my me or any of my quests.

A Garden Patch Registration Card identifying plot number(s) will be issued upon completion of registration. Gardeners must carry the Registration Card with them while tending to their garden plot(s).

Form of Payment (please circle):

Check # _____ Amount Paid: _____

Cash Amount Paid: _____

Money Order Amount Paid: _____

Plot rental period is from: _____ thru to _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Garden Patch Board Member Accepting Application

Printed Name _____ Assigned Plot #: _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Welcome to the Garden Patch Community Garden



Garden Patch Community Garden Registration

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY ALL INFORMATION

1. Plot Holder: (last name) _____ (first name) _____

Address: _____

Street

City

Zip Code

Phone Numbers: _____

E-mail Addresses: _____

2. Will you be part of, or the contact person for, a group that will be gardening in your plot?
(Classroom, work group, etc.) YES NO Please circle.

If yes, what is the group name/organization? _____

Returning Gardeners -

Do you prefer the same plot/plots as last year? Plot(s) #: _____

Would you like a different plot if available? Plot (s) #: _____

New Gardeners -

Requesting Plot#: _____ 1st choice or Plot # _____ 2nd choice

Garden Rules Acknowledgment: I have read and I understand the Garden Patch Community Garden Rules and Regulations and agree to follow them, knowing that non-compliance could result in immediate loss of my plot **without a refund.**

Printed Name _____ **Signature** _____ **Date** _____

Office Use Only:

Garden Plot(s) Assigned: _____ Check # _____ Cash Money Order Amount _____

Plot rental is from : _____ to : _____

Received by: Name

_____ Signature _____ Date _____

Form registration_2012.doc