

# Garden Community Guidelines

The purpose of the Rules, Regulations, and Enforcements is to summarize the Declarations of the Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions which has been accepted by the gardener as a requirement of the Grove Church.

## GARDEN PLOTS:

1. The Garden is built around the common grounds of the Grove Church. It is important that each gardener maintains the aesthetics of his/her garden plot.
2. When you rent a plot, you are expected to keep it clear of weeds, grass and debris that harbor insects or other pests. Weeds over (1) foot or with seed heads must be removed. Weeds include Bermuda grass, cheese weed, spurge and others that easily spread. Please let the garden committee know if you need help with this.
3. Weeds from your garden are to be bagged, tied up, and placed by the shed. Please notify one of the Garden Committee members if we are out of black trash bags.
4. Composting is highly encouraged. We are glad to explain to you the composting process via email or in person. Please do not put weeds (or mint) into the compost bins.
5. Participants who neglect their garden beds will be notified by email of their failure to perform the mandatory gardening tasks.
6. Participants will not be allowed to build tall structures within their beds, unless otherwise approved by the Garden Committee. Trees are not allowed in garden beds unless approved by the Garden Committee. Garden art needs to be kept to a minimum and may be removed by the Garden Committee if it is considered unsightly.
7. Because the garden is visible from the road, we ask that all frost coverings, shade cloth, and insect or bird netting be uniform in color. We will try to always have pre-approved materials on hand for you to use to ensure that the garden stays uniformed.
8. The garden will have occasional "work days". We ask for your assistance and participation on these designated days to help with the upkeep of the garden. We will inform you of these days in advance.
9. It is highly encouraged that Participants would donate some of their plot's crops to a charity of their choice.
10. If you are going out of town for a length of time, please inform the Garden Committee so that we can keep an eye on your plot for you. We are glad to keep your plot maintained while you are gone.
11. We do not have a rule for every situation; therefore, we reserve the right to address any new situation as it occurs.

## PESTICIDES / CHEMICALS / TRAPS:

1. The Grove Community Garden practices sustainable and organic gardening principles.
2. All chemical pesticides and herbicides are prohibited in the garden. We ask that any products you use be OMRI (Organic Materials Review Institute) approved.
3. The Garden Committee will give you a list of ways that you can manage pests and help your garden to thrive.

#### WATER & IRRIGATION:

1. The Garden currently has a private well for watering and an electrical irrigation timing system. It is set by the Garden Committee for the appropriate watering for the current season. If you need additional water on your plot, there are hoses throughout the garden that are available for your use. Please coil and return them to the designated areas after each use.
2. Please contact one of the Garden Committee Members if you are having issues with the amount of water you are receiving. We are glad to provide different watering heads for your plot or make changes to the zone that waters your plot on a temporary basis.
3. Please report any leaks or major water problems to one of the Garden Committee Members immediately. In the event of a severe water leak that cannot be controlled, call The Grove Church office at 480-883-3733 or after hours you can call Bari Murray at 602-574-1652.

#### SUMMER GARDENING:

1. If you choose not to garden during the summer months, this is the time to shut down your plot by turning off your water by changing out the watering heads. Mulching your plot 2-3" thick will also help to keep weeds from growing. You can also solarize your soil during this time. Ask a Garden Committee member for instructions on how to do this. There are supplies in the shed for this purpose.

#### CONTACT CHANGES:

1. Participants are required to notify the Garden Committee of changes to contact information (address, phone, email). This ensures delivery of renewal forms and other timely information.

**TERMINATION OF GARDEN PLOTS:** The Garden Committee will inspect garden plots frequently to review their condition and to ensure compliance with the rules and regulations. In the event a gardener is in non-compliance:

1. A written 1st notice of non-compliance will be sent via email. The issue(s) must be corrected within 15 days of written notice.
2. Continued non-compliance will result in a 2nd written notice via email, with the understanding that after 7 days of no response to the notice, you will receive a 3rd and final "failure to comply" notice, which will result in the enforcement of Termination of your plot. All funds will be forfeited, and the plot reassigned.