

## **Regulations for Use of the Eau Claire County Community Garden Plots**

### **Disclaimer**

Eau Claire County, in permitting the use of certain excess lands for garden plots by the public, is not responsible for any personal injury or property damaged incurred by any plot renter, or for the theft, loss, or destruction of personal property owned by any plot renter.

### **Watering**

Each gardener is responsible for providing their own watering supplies (hoses, pails, etc.) Water is to be used in a responsible manner and shut off after usage. Any misuse or abuse of watering will result in revocation of watering and/or garden privileges. Misuse or abuse should be reported to the Eau Claire County Extension Office. **Watering hoses may not remain hooked up to the water faucets after you leave for the day. Do not leave hoses in the road paths. Mowing services may run over hoses if they cannot see them.**

### **Soil / Plot Enhancement**

The soil at the garden plots is fairly sandy. Some people choose to add organic matter or fertilizers to improve the soil. However, this and any other enhancements to the plot do not privilege you to ownership, reimbursement of cost, or receipt of the same plot next year unless you choose to pay the annual holding fee. The idea of community gardens is that everyone is trying to make the location a healthy plot to garden year after year.

### **Basic Rules**

1. Plantings in the garden are entirely the decision of the renter with these exceptions:
  - a. Vines cannot spread into adjoining plots; planting may be only in rented plot.
  - b. No illegal plants or other controlled substances shall be planted.
2. Pets are not allowed in the garden area.
3. Children are confined to the family's assigned plot(s) and must be supervised at all times.
4. There are to be no fires for any reason at the gardens.
5. Do not chop down seedling trees or branches from surrounding trees for stakes.
6. The use of stereos is prohibited. If you like listening to music in the gardens, use headphones.

### **Weed Control**

1. Each gardener is responsible for keeping the assigned plot free from weeds and obstacles.
2. Synthetic pesticides and herbicides are not permitted in the garden area without permission from Eau Claire County Extension Office.
3. Gardeners failing to control weeds will be reminded by a sign posted next to their plot. Gardeners have one week to remove the weeds or the plot will be mowed. Not complying with the proper weed control may result in refusal of plot space in the future.
4. If circumstances arise that require you to abandon your plot, please let us know so that we can take the appropriate measures to reduce weed expansion into other garden plots.

### **Trash**

1. Vegetable residue, weeds, rocks, sod, or other materials are not to be placed in other plots.
2. **ALL** garbage and trash is to be taken home for disposal. Nothing is to be left on site.
3. Milk jugs used as greenhouses for tomato seedlings are to be anchored well to keep them from blowing away. Take them home when you are done using them.

### **Harvesting**

Unauthorized persons may not harvest produce from any plot. Persons taking produce without proper consent will be prosecuted.

### **End of Season**

Remove all stakes, string, twine, plastic, trash, and anything else you brought to the gardens. Plants need to be pulled from the ground and scattered throughout your garden plot. Large stalks like corn and sunflower must be pulled or cut off close to the ground and scattered. Renters will be assessed a minimum \$25 per hour clean-up fee for failing to comply and remove all the above listed items from their garden plots. Future rental privileges will be revoked if any assessed fees are not paid by established due dates.