



## 2017 Walworth County Community Garden Guidelines

*Ensuring enjoyable gardening experiences for all of the garden community is the primary goal of these rules and responsibilities. For this reason, observe the rules of the garden and be a good neighbor.*

### All gardeners must sign and return this form to the UW-Extension office prior to planting.

1. The garden should be a safe place for the community, children, and other gardeners. Do not bring anything that will compromise the safety of the garden.
2. The garden's steering committee has the duty of enforcing rules and making decisions for the garden between annual meetings of all gardeners. They have authority to resolve conflicts, including refusing a plot to a gardener or dismissing a current gardener.
3. Weather permitting, garden plots will be open approximately Monday, May 9, 2016. Produce must be harvested and plots cleaned by the last Saturday of October. This includes the removal of everything you brought into the garden.
4. Chemical weed killer (herbicides) and moth balls are NOT allowed. If you have a pest that needs control, the Walworth County Extension at 262-741-4951 can give safe pest-control options.
5. The Walworth County Beekeepers Club will have educational bee hives near the garden; therefore **any pesticide containing the chemical Carbyaryl (commonly sold as SEVIN) is strictly prohibited and should not be used.** It is a violation of federal law to use any pesticide in a manner inconsistent with its label.
6. Plants must be grown within the plot boundaries. No perennial plants allowed. Tall crops (sunflowers, corn, trellised plants) may be grown, but should not shade another garden plot.
7. Water will be available on site. Hooking up your garden hose to the coupler at the garden is allowed. Hoses are only allowed through designated walking areas and cannot be dragged through plots. Gardeners must be present when their hose is hooked up to the water source.
8. Hoses are to be rolled up and stored at designated hose stations after each use.
9. Do not waste water; turn hoses off when not in use.
10. Only established paths going to and from your plots may be used.
11. Children are encouraged in the garden. We ask that they stay within the respected plot and the common areas of the garden.
12. **Plastic mulch and plastic orange fences are not allowed.** Biodegradable mulch such as compost, leaves, and straw are encouraged. No wood chips are allowed as mulch because of the slow decomposition rate.
13. **No pets or alcoholic beverages** are allowed.
14. Gardens should look tidy all growing season. Gardeners are responsible for controlling the weeds throughout the growing season and preventing them from spreading to other gardens. If your plot is overgrown with weeds, you will receive a warning. After two weeks of no action, your plot may be mowed or reassigned by garden coordinators.
15. All weeds and diseased plants should be disposed of in the designated area. Please no trash in the piles. Please no kitchen scraps as it may attract animals.
16. All gardeners are responsible for providing their own tools, seeds, and plants.
17. Initial tilling will be done prior to the growing season; however, additional tilling might be necessary.
18. In the fall, remove all materials that were brought into the garden. If it grew in the garden, it can stay in the garden.
19. Volunteer time is encouraged for upkeep of the whole garden.
20. The Community Garden directory is to be used for positive communication only. Do not contact gardeners for unkept gardens (see guideline #14)
21. Neither Walworth County nor the University of Wisconsin-Extension Office is liable in case of accident, theft, or vandalism.

**Please Note:** If the garden coordinators notice that the above rules and guidelines have not been followed, then you will receive a warning letter explaining what problems need to be addressed. If the situation has not been corrected after two weeks, you will lose the plot and it will be assigned to a different gardener.

**Stealing and vandalism will not be tolerated. Call the Elkhorn Police Department at 262-723-2994 to report theft or vandalism problems. In case of emergency dial 911.**

### Retain Top Portion for Your Records

**WAIVER**

*I have read and understand the application and accept these rules, terms, and conditions stated above for the participation in the UW-Extension Walworth County Community Garden.*

Name (Please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail Garden Plot Registration and original signed Guidelines to:**  
UW-Extension Community Garden, 100 W. Walworth St., Elkhorn, WI 53121