

Sherman Road Community Gardens



2017
Guidelines & Regulations

Sherman Road Community Gardens – A Great Place to Grow!

Welcome!

Please read this for 2017 updates!

The growing season is almost here! For those of us who garden, the Sherman Road Community Gardens is the place to be. The gardens provide residents of the community with an opportunity to grow a garden and share their gardening experiences.

As we all know, being a responsible member of a community requires that we be well informed, be considerate of others, and be aware of your surroundings. This is your community garden and we want it to reflect the beauty of your work .

This booklet is updated and revised from previous years. It contains everything you will need to know as a participant in our garden community. Please share it with other family members who may be gardening with you.

We look forward to sharing our summer with you!



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Telephone Numbers to Remember

Winnebago County UW-Extension	920-232-1970 or 920-727-8643
ADVOCAP	920-426-0150

Sherman Road Community Gardens

Location:

The garden site is located along the south side of the Winnebago Mental Health just off Sherman Road.

The entrance is located about 1/4 mile north of the intersection of Snell Road and Sherman Road.

Parking:

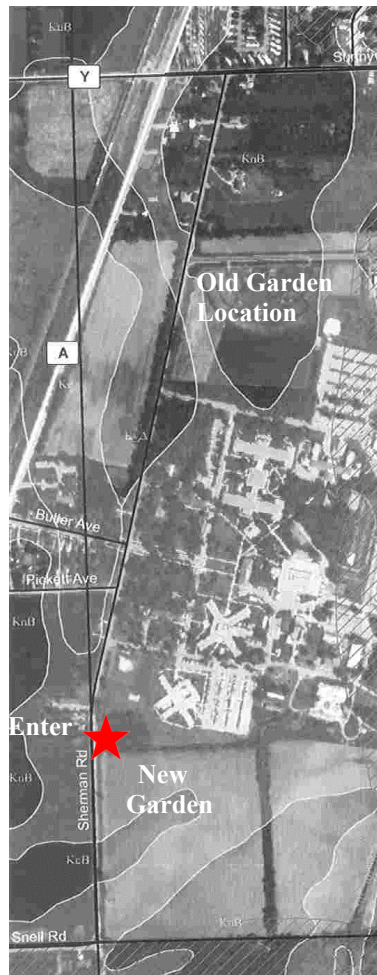
Parking is allowed next to your plots, weather permitting, as long as you do not block access to other plots and/or routes in traffic flow. Please obey signs that relate to parking matters and directions. There will be only one driveway serving as both exit and entrance, so please proceed with caution.

Also, please park on the front parking pad when the lanes are wet. On numerous occasions in previous years, traffic cones and chains were moved to drive down lanes. As a result, it has been very difficult for the grass in the lanes to establish so we continue to have bare, rutted, lanes.

Plot Size and Boundary

Stakes:

The garden plots are approximately 800 sq. ft. (20 x 40 feet). Corners for each garden will be marked by posts and flags.



Plant your garden between the marked area.

Walk only on walkways provided in the garden area and on your own plot. Anyone walking in someone else's plot is trespassing.

String used by some gardeners to mark garden boundaries has caused problems. We recommend that gardeners **use string only** for laying out rows within their own plot and for staking tall or climbing vegetables and plants. **All string must be removed at the end of the season. Failure to do so can result in not being eligible for renting the next year.**

Rental Fees:

The annual rental fee for a garden plot is \$15.00 for a single plot. New gardeners are restricted to two plots at initial registration.

If plots are still available after the gardens open, current gardeners can register for additional plot(s). The first four plots registered per gardener will be eligible for rental the following year. Any plot(s) registered over four per gardener (ie. fifth or sixth plot) are rented on a per year basis only and are not guaranteed the next year. This is to allow the opportunity for new gardeners every year.

- Please do not tamper with garden- marking flags or stakes.
- If you have chosen not to use your garden site, you must notify the UW-Extension office within one week of the Garden Opening so that your site might be reassigned.
- No refunds of the site fees will be given once the gardens have been opened for a full week.

Garden News and Information:

Check the community bulletin board located at your garden site regularly for information on garden events, policies, announcements and garden-related information or educational opportunities.

Please be aware that there may be deer and other wildlife at this location.

Toilet Facilities:

Toilet facilities will be available at the garden site from garden-opening to garden-closing.

Pets:

Pets are not permitted in the Community Gardens.

Garbage:

There is no garbage pick-up at the garden site. All lunch bags, soda pop containers and other refuse must be taken home.

Safety and Courtesy:

Children must be supervised at all times by adults in and around the community garden area. Do not enter, or allow your children to enter other garden sites. If children are within the garden, they must stay in their own family’s site or on established paths. “No Trespassing” or “No Parking” signs may mark some areas around the garden. Please observe these signs. Gardeners and their children must respect the private property adjacent to the gardens. Do not enter the wooded area surrounding the community garden on the northern boundary of the garden. Trespassers will be cited by Winnebago Mental Health.

Garden Appearance:

The Community Garden is a public display of collaboration, partnership, and community. A neat garden appearance is important and is a visual reminder of the multiple benefits of communities working together. Also, fewer weeds result in higher yield potentials. Weeds spread seeds to other garden sites and could create problems for other gardeners. Hoeing and hand weeding to control weeds, as well as mulching, are very important.

Gardeners need to maintain a clean-looking site. Those who have neglected their garden sites will be notified and encouraged to remove their weeds. If a gardener is unwilling or unable to do so, **the garden site will be mowed, and the gardener will lose his/her community garden privileges for the following year.**

Gardening with Others:

- For the safety and security of our gardeners, we encourage you to keep a close watch on children and fellow gardeners. If possible, garden with a family member or friend. Recommended gardening times are sunrise to sunset. If you have any concerns about any activity in the gardens, please contact local law enforcement at **911**.
- Plant only within the corner stakes/flags that mark your garden site.
- **Materials used to block weeds must be removed at the end of the garden season. Failure to do so can result in not being eligible for renting the next year.**
- Gardens and pathways must be kept free of weeds.
- All gardeners are responsible for weeding their gardens and the borders of their gardens.
- Vine crops and taller crops must be planted so that they will not block pathways and creep into other garden sites.
- Use designated pathways to and from your garden site. Walking across other gardens is disrespectful.
- Vandalizing or stealing at the gardens will be reported to local police.
- Rocks/stones may be removed and piled by the main (corner) garden posts or on the edge of your plot. **Do not place stones in grassed areas.** They are difficult to see when mowing and damage the mower.
- You are responsible for disposing of your own garbage and garden waste. There is no garbage pick-up at the gardens. All trash and other refuse must be taken with you. Accumulation of garbage on site will not be tolerated.

Only garden participants, people the gardeners invite or other authorized personnel with business at the garden site, are permitted in the garden area.

Garden Site Fertilizing and Mulching:

Gardeners may apply any organic matter (such as composted plants) to meet the nitrogen needs of their crops. Leafy vegetables, sweet corn, tomatoes and vine crops may require additional amounts of nitrogen at flowering. See UW-Extension publication A2304 “Garden Fertilization” for additional fertility information. (<http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Assets/pdfs/A2304.pdf>). If you choose to use commercial products, follow application rates for commercial products carefully as excess chemical fertilizers can burn plants and/or reduce seed germination.

Composted manure, compost, and leaf mulch are also excellent ways to fertilize, protect and reduce the watering of your plants. Straw, leaves and newspaper may be used to mulch your site. Please take care to anchor these items as they very often get blown away. If you choose, you may recycle plant material within your own garden site.

Fall Garden Clean Up:

The Community Garden site will close Sunday, October 30, 2016

Gardeners will need to have their garden plot(s) cleaned and harvested on or before this date:

- A dumpster will be available at the end of the season to dispose of garbage and garden waste. During the growing season you are responsible for disposing of your own trash and refuse.
- Remove all stakes, string, wire and other materials from your site.
- Plant material may be left in your garden site; larger material such as corn stalks needs to be chopped or cut-up.
- Gardeners who do not clean their plot(s) will no longer be able to garden at any of the Community Gardens.

Irrigating:

Water will not be provided at the gardens. Gardeners will need to bring their own water.

Any water containers left on site need to be kept inside your garden plot. They are not to be kept on the grassy areas.

Harvesting and Gleaning:

Prior to fall tilling and after the Community Gardens has closed for the growing season, all Community Garden sites will be gleaned of produce that remains on all garden sites. This produce will be provided to other community non-profits who serve our community including (but not limited to) food banks, food pantries and shelters.

Horticulture Information and Education:

All gardeners are encouraged to share their knowledge and experiences with gardening. If you or someone you know would like to demonstrate or conduct an educational / informational session at the gardens, please notify the UW-Extension Office.

Gardens resources that may be helpful can be found on the UW-Extension Learning Store, learningstore.uwex.edu or the Wisconsin Horticulture website, hort.uwex.edu

Garden Events:

Community Garden activities will be posted. For more information about such events, contact UW-Extension.

Garden Cancellations & Mailing Updates:

If, for any reason, you cannot plant or care for your garden, contact the UW-Extension office immediately so that your garden plot may be reassigned.

***To get garden mailings in a timely fashion,
always inform UW-Extension of any name,
address or phone number changes.***

Oshkosh Area Shared Harvest Food Pantry Donations

What could be better than doing good by gardening? Shared Harvest offers the opportunity to help those who are hungry and provide fresh produce to people who otherwise couldn't afford it. Numerous locations in Oshkosh accept fresh produce donations, including but not limited to:

Father Carr's Place 2B
1062 N Koeller St., Oshkosh
231-2378

Oshkosh Area Community Pantry
(connected to St. Vincent De Paul)
2551 Jackson St., Oshkosh
651-9960

Salvation Army
417 Algoma Blvd., Oshkosh
232-7660

If you have extra produce, please consider donating it to one of these places in need. In particular, items that have a longer shelf life, such as winter squash and onions, are a good match for donations.



UW-Extension

Garden and Landscape Publications can be viewed and some are printable from our websites at:

UW-Extension Publications Website:

<http://learningstore.uwex.edu/>

UW-Horticulture

<http://hort.uwex.edu/>

Winnebago County UW-Extension

<http://winnebago.uwex.edu/>

Sherman Road Community Gardens Partner Agencies

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides the land for gardening.

Winnebago County UW-Extension provides leadership for garden registration, educational programs and gardener support.

ADVOCAP provides leadership to the garden committee, garden promotion, and gardener support.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service has provided design and layout assistance of the community garden that address erosion control, parking, and garden access.

Winnebago County Land & Water Conservation Department has provided design and layout assistance of the community garden and garden mapping and equipment.

Winnebago County Parks Department has provided equipment and labor used to install stakes and signs along with maintenance activities in the gardens.

Volunteering:

Community Gardens simply do not exist without the capacity of those who garden. Your involvement and your commitment are central to the future of this program.

Disclaimer:

The Community Garden Partnership, Wisconsin DNR, and Winnebago County do not assume any responsibility for mishap or injury occurring at the Community Garden site. Nor are the same responsible for accidental or intentional acts of vandalism or other harm by persons, animals or weather to gardeners or garden plants.

An EEO/Affirmative Action employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX requirements. Please make request for reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to educational programs as early as possible preceding the scheduled program, service or activity.

