

# City of Madison Community Garden Contract

## Introduction

The Community Garden Manager is the highest governing authority at the City of Madison Community Garden.

Breaking any rules, terms, and conditions is cause for exclusion from the garden and loss of your plot.

1. You will receive one verbal warning from the community garden manager.
2. If no response or correction has been made, you will receive written notice two weeks later.
3. In another two weeks, if no response or correction has been made, you will receive written final notification that you have forfeited your gardening privileges and plot.
4. You will be allowed to reapply for another garden plot only after one year, and only at the discretion of the community garden manager.

## Rules, Terms, and Conditions for Participation

If accepted as a gardener, I will abide by the following rules, terms, and conditions:

1. I use this garden at the sole discretion of The City of Madison Community Garden. I agree to abide by its policies and practices.
2. There is no fee for the use of the garden.
3. Once I have been assigned a plot, I will cultivate and plant it within two weeks. I will garden year round (weather permitting). My plot cannot be left fallow or unused for any period of three weeks or longer, more than one time a year (weather permitting).
4. My plot is \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ feet. I will not expand my plot beyond this measurement or into paths or other plots. I will keep all my plants within the limits of my garden plot and will not allow any plants to grow more than six feet high. I must keep my plot free of weeds, pests and diseases.
5. Anything I bring from my home I will take back home. I will not bring household trash and leave it at the City of Madison Community Garden. Furthermore, I will keep my plot, paths, and surrounding areas clean and neat. I will completely separate my trash into three groups:
  1. Dead plants, leaves, and other green waste plant parts;
  2. Rocks, stones, and asphalt; and,
  3. Paper, plastic, cardboard, wood, metal, etc. I will put each type of trash only in the areas designated specifically for each.
6. If I now have more than one plot, I will give up my additional plots by the end of this gardening year, 20\_\_\_\_.
7. I will not plant any illegal plant. I will not smoke, drink alcoholic beverages, use illegal drugs, or gamble in the garden. I will not come to the garden while under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs. I will not bring weapons or pets or other animals to the garden.

8. Guests and visitors, including children, may enter the garden only if I accompany them. They must follow all rules, terms, and conditions stated here. I will supervise my children at all times when they are in the garden. I am solely responsible for the behavior of my guests.
9. The Community Garden Manager will assign me general garden maintenance tasks each month, and I must complete them by the end of the month that I am assigned them.
10. I will water my plot according to water-wise guidelines. (If I use more than the recommended amount of water, I will pay a fee each month to cover the cost of this additional water.)
11. I will attend the regular quarterly Community Garden meetings. **If** workshops are offered, I will attend at least one on each of the following topics: soil preparation and maintenance, watering the vegetable garden, and pest and disease control.
12. I will not apply any pesticides in the garden without the approval of the Community Garden Manager.
13. I will not make duplicate keys of any locks at the garden or give my key or lock combination to another person.
14. I will not take food or plants from other gardeners' plots. I will not take anything from the garden that is not rightfully mine.
15. I will respect other gardeners, and I will not use abusive or profane language or discriminate against others.
16. I will work to keep the garden a happy, secure, and enjoyable place where all participants can garden and socialize peacefully in a neighborly manner.
17. I am duly aware of the risks and hazards that may arise through participation in the City of Madison Community Garden, and assume any expenses and liabilities I incur in the event of an accident, illness or other incapacity. If I have had any questions about the City of Madison Community Garden, its nature, risks or hazards, I have contacted the garden manager (s) and discussed those questions with him or her to my satisfaction.
18. In consideration of being granted the opportunity to participate in the City of Madison Community Garden, I, for myself, my legal successors, agents and assigns, do I agree to assume all risk of injury and other loss to myself (or any person assisting me at my request), and I waive and release all liability claims for damages or losses of any kind against the City of Madison, Nebraska, and its agents, officers and employees, the City of Madison Community Garden, the Garden Manager (s), volunteers, other gardeners, and the cooperating landowner, except for my actionable negligence, that may arise out of my participation in this activity. I understand that this Release means that, among other things, I am giving up my right to sue for any such losses, damages, injury or costs that I may incur.
19. I represent and certify that my true age is either 19 years old or, if I am under 19 years old on this date, my parent or legal guardian has read and signed this form. I have read this entire Release, fully understand it, and I agree to be legally bound by it.

### **Garden Rules**

1. Each gardener is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of their garden plot. Watering, weeding, harvesting and any other garden related maintenance are all the

responsibility of the gardener. Gardeners may arrange for other gardeners to water their plots.

2. Tools will be made available for use during the regularly scheduled work time each week. A limited number of tools, hoses and watering equipment will be available in the community garden storage bin for use during non-scheduled work times. Regularly scheduled work times will be posted on the garden bulletin board.
3. Community Garden Manager (s) will unlock storage shed as needed by gardeners. Keep garden storage shed locked at all times and return all tools.
4. Children are welcome in the garden but must be accompanied by an adult and must be supervised at all times.
5. Each gardener must complete a City of Madison Community Garden Contract and Release of all claims.
6. Garden plots should be cared for at least once a week. It is the gardener's responsibility to notify the coordinator if he or she is not able to care for their plot in any given week. If any plot remains unattended for more than three weeks that plot is subject to reassignment.
7. The application of herbicides (weed killers) to the garden plots is prohibited.
8. Assignment of garden plots will be awarded by a first come, first serve basis. Preference for next year's plots will be given to this year's participants first.
9. Gardeners may harvest vegetables and flowers from their garden only.
10. At the end of the growing season, gardeners are responsible for clearing their plot of all plant material and leaving the plot as they found it in the spring.
11. The Garden Manager (s) is responsible for ensuring that the rules are followed at all times.

## **Commitment**

I have read and understand the application and accept these rules, terms, and conditions stated above for the participation in the City of Madison Community Garden.

**Signed:** [Gardener] \_\_\_\_\_

**Print Name:**[Gardener]\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Approved:** [Community Garden Manager Signature] \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: [Community Garden Manager]\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_