



Pleasanton Community Garden Garden Patch Program

Rules and Regulations

I. Overview

Pleasanton Community Garden, in Val Vista Community Park, is intended to be a beautiful, safe, and peaceful place for residents to cultivate flowers and vegetables. The following set of rules and regulations have been designed to ensure:

- That the community garden is safe.
- That the community garden is a pleasant place to be and look at, for gardeners, neighbors, and the general public.
- Fairness and equity among the gardeners.

II. Who Can License a Patch in Pleasanton Community Garden?

You must be 18 years or older and live within the City of Pleasanton tax base.

II. Patch Allocation, Registration, Fees

1. One (1) garden patch per individual or household.
 - i. The person whose signature appears on the Registration Form is considered the primary patch member and is responsible for the garden patch.
2. Garden patches are issued on a year-to-year basis, from January 1-December 31.
 - i. Current Patch gardeners in good standing have the option to renew their garden patch for the following year.
 - ii. Returning Patch gardeners must complete the Community Garden Patch License Renewal Form and pay the annual fee by the registration deadline. Those who do not meet the registration deadline will forfeit gardening privileges and their patch will be re-assigned to a new gardener.
 - iii. If there are no vacant garden patches, prospective gardeners can add their name to a waiting list. When a patch becomes available, prospective gardeners will be contacted in order of the list.
 - iv. Gardeners who relinquish their patch may not directly transfer the patch to another gardener. The Garden Management Team will reassign patches that become available.
 - v. New gardeners must complete the Community Garden Application and License Agreement and pay the annual fee and deposit before being issued a key and beginning gardening.
 - vi. Annual Patch Fees are not refundable.

III. Gardener Responsibilities

1. Gardeners are responsible for year-round maintenance of their garden patch and surrounding pathways. Patches and pathways must be kept free of weeds, diseased plants, trash, and debris at all times. Vines and other plants cannot encroach onto pathways. Gardeners will strive to use organic gardening principles and will avoid excessive use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides at all times.
2. Common areas are maintained as a shared responsibility by all gardeners.
3. Gardeners are required to participate in quarterly garden cleanups. The City will provide a green waste container to assist in the clean up as deemed necessary.
4. Gardeners must attend at least one (1) garden meetings annually. At least two (2) meetings will be held annually.
5. Gardeners must be involved in the hands-on cultivation of their plots; however family and friends are welcome to share in the responsibility.
6. Gardeners may not pay for someone else to garden their patch.
7. Gardeners and their guests must comply with all rules and regulations.
8. Children must be supervised at all times.
9. Patches should be prepared for planting by April 30.
10. If winter crops are not planted, garden must be free of weeds and dead or unsightly plant materials and a 4" layer of manure or a cover crop must be planted by November 30.
11. Garden carts and wheelbarrows must be returned and locked when not in use to the designated area.
12. Trellises and other support structures may not exceed a 6' height. Courtesy should be extended to fellow gardeners so as not to shade their patch with structures or plant materials as much as possible.
13. Invasive plants are not allowed in gardens – this includes mint, blackberries, trees of any kind, shrubs over 2' high or other invasive plants that will or could encroach on another patch and would be difficult to remove.
14. \$75 deposit will be refunded to gardener after patch is surrendered, key is returned and all materials are cleared from patch, including any underground cages or wire, and all plant materials.
15. Gardeners may keep a 20-gallon trash container with lid on within their patch to store supplies and tools. All other tools must be kept off site. In addition, gardeners may keep

a home compost bin up to 13 cubic ft in size within their patch. No other storage containers will be allowed.

IV. At the Community Garden

Hours of Operation: Daily, from 7:00 a.m. to Sunset

- Gates:** In general, garden gates will be kept closed at all times.
- Behavior:** Foul language or loud offensive behavior is not permitted.
- Cars:** Personal vehicles are not permitted in the garden area or on park pathways.
- Bathroom:** Proper bathroom facilities (located nearby) must be used.
- Garbage:** Pack it in, pack it out. Discarding of garbage on the ground, in the compost area, or green waste area is strictly prohibited.
- No Selling:** Produce from patches is primarily for family consumption. Excess food can be shared with family, friends and neighbors. You may not sell your produce.
- Harvesting:** Harvest only from your own patch.
- Smoking:** No smoking is permitted in the garden area.
- Controlled Substances:**
No alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs of any kind are allowed in the garden area.
- Animals:** Pets are not allowed in the garden area.
- Irrigation System:** No alterations to the irrigation system are permitted. Irrigation system may NOT BE LEFT ON when gardener is not present in the garden. Timers are not allowed, spigots must be turned off when not in use. Water conservation methods should be utilized by all gardeners whenever possible.

V. City Oversight

The City of Pleasanton and the Director of Parks and Community Services reserves the right to modify, change, or alter the above rules and regulations in the best interest of the community.