



## **Community Garden Guidelines**

1. All gardeners are required to complete an application form. A garden membership fee of \$20 is due on Garden Opening Day (April, dates vary). \*\*\*Scholarships may be available based on income, please ask Mill City Grows Staff for more information.\*\*\*
2. I will participate in beginning and end of season meetings as well as at least 3 garden work-days per season, if physically able, including at least one day before July 1<sup>st</sup>. Those unable to attend garden work-days will be assigned alternate garden projects to be completed in a timely manner. Failure to complete volunteer requirement will result in loss of garden plot.
3. I must show activity in my garden plot by May 1 and keep it planted throughout the season. My plot must be cleared by November 30, unless growing under greenhouse plastic. If I must abandon my plot for any reason, I will notify Mill City Grows or a Garden Coordinator immediately.
4. I am responsible for maintaining my own plot, and must be present throughout the duration of the growing season. This includes keeping weeds down and maintaining paths immediately surrounding my plot. If I take a vacation, I must find someone to tend my plot during my absence.
5. If my plot becomes unkempt, I understand that I will be given one week following written notice to clean it up. After that time, it will be re-assigned or tilled in.
6. I will keep trash and litter cleaned from the plot, as well as from adjacent pathways and fences. If I see trash I will pick it up!
7. I will not use pesticides or herbicides in the garden - they are prohibited. If I am having serious pest or disease issues, I will speak with Mill City Grows staff or a Garden Leader.
8. I will seal and throw away any plants that have a disease and weeds that have gone to seed. These plants are not to be composted. If I am unsure, I will contact Mill City Grows or a Garden Coordinator before disposing of plant tissue.
9. Drugs, alcohol, chewing tobacco, and smoking are not permitted in the garden. Tobacco can transmit a serious disease - tobacco mosaic virus - to tomato plants. I will wash hands after using tobacco products to prevent disease spread.
10. I will conserve water and always be sure that water is turned off after use.

## Mill City Grows Community Gardens

*Growing for Lowell!*



11. I will be considerate of other gardeners, and try to plant tall crops where they will not shade neighboring plots.
12. I will pick only my own crops unless given permission by another plot user.
13. I will report theft, vandalism and unusual activities to Mill City Grows, a Garden Coordinator, or the Lowell Police. For my own safety, I will only garden during daylight hours.
14. A parent or guardian must accompany children under 16 years of age at all times in the garden, per Mill City Grows' "Code of Conduct."
15. I will not bring pets to the garden.
16. No plants shall be used that are listed as invasive or potentially invasive on the Massachusetts Invasive Plant Advisory Group list of invasive plants, including quickly spreading herbs such as mint, unless they are potted. The planting of trees, shrubs, bushes, and any non-native species is prohibited, unless written consent is provided by the City of Lowell.
17. Use common courtesy, be considerate of your gardening neighbors and ENJOY!

**In addition to these guidelines, gardeners must abide by the specific regulations and responsibilities outlined in the license agreement with the City of Lowell.**

*By signing my Gardener Application, I have agreed that I have read and understand the City of Lowell and Mill City Grows Gardener Guidelines and plan to abide by all of the garden rules. I understand that neither Mill City Grows nor the City of Lowell is responsible for my actions and agree to hold them harmless for any liability, damage, loss, or claim that occurs in connection with use of the garden by me or my guests.*

### **To Contact Mill City Grows**

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