



Community Gardener Guidelines

1. All gardeners are required to complete an application form, and participate in opening & closing season meetings. A garden membership fee of \$20 is due on Garden Opening Meeting (March-April, dates vary). Scholarships may be available based on income, please ask Mill City Grows Staff for more information.
2. All gardeners are required to volunteer 6 hours of their time to the maintenance of the community garden during garden workdays; Volunteer hours are for maintenance of communal garden spaces or garden projects, not individual plot maintenance. Gardeners unable to complete their volunteer hours during regularly scheduled workdays or gardeners who would prefer alternative volunteer projects, must contact Mill City Grows for volunteer opportunities. Failure to complete your volunteer hours will result in loss of your garden plot.
3. All plots must show activity by May 1 and stay planted throughout the season. All plots must be cleared by November 30, unless growing under greenhouse plastic. If you must abandon your plot for any reason, notify Mill City Grows or a Garden Coordinator immediately.
4. Any gardener found to be in violation of any of the Community Gardener Guidelines, will be contacted by a Garden Coordinator or Mill City Grows staff and given one week to resolve the problem. If the issue has not been addressed within 1 week, Mill City Grows will issue a written warning. Any gardener that receives 3 warnings throughout the growing season will be asked to leave the garden and the plot will be reassigned.
5. All gardeners are responsible for regularly watering, weeding, and harvesting their plot. Gardeners must be present throughout the duration of the growing season; if you take a vacation, find someone to tend to your plot during your absence or contact your Garden Coordinator.
6. Only harvest from or maintain your own plot unless given permission by another plot user.
7. All gardeners are responsible for keeping weeds down and maintaining the paths immediately surrounding their plot. Pathways must be kept clear and accessible.
8. All plots, pathways and fences must be kept clear of litter and trash. If you see trash, pick it up!
9. Communal garden spaces cannot be used for personal storage.
10. Pesticides and herbicides are prohibited. If you are having serious pest or disease issues and would like technical assistance, contact Mill City Grows staff or a Garden Coordinator.
11. Any plants that have a disease and weeds that have gone to seed must be sealed and thrown away; these plants are not to be composted. If you are unsure, contact Mill City Grows or a Garden Coordinator before disposing of plant tissue.
12. The water must be turned off after each use. Please ask for help if you're unsure how to turn off the water hydrant.

Mill City Grows Community Gardens

Growing for Lowell!



13. Be considerate of other gardeners, and plant tall crops where they will not shade neighboring plots.
14. Please report theft, vandalism and unusual activities to Mill City Grows, a Garden Coordinator, or the Lowell Police. For your own safety, only garden during daylight hours.
15. A parent or guardian must accompany children under 16 years of age at all times in the garden.
16. Pets are not allowed in the garden.
17. Drugs, alcohol, chewing tobacco, and smoking are not permitted in the garden. Tobacco can transmit a serious disease - tobacco mosaic virus - to tomato plants. Please wash your hands after using tobacco products to prevent disease spread.
18. 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.
19. 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.

If you have any questions, please contact Mill City Grows:

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