

Ridgefield Park Community Garden Rules

All participants in the Ridgefield Park community gardens are required to abide by the following rules.

Purpose:

The purpose of these rules is to ensure all participating gardeners have the opportunity for a positive gardening experience. Garden plots are an asset to the community and all plots are to be used in a productive and environmentally sound manner.

Eligibility:

The community gardens are open to village residents, groups in the village, companies in the village and people serving on village committees and commissions. Returning gardeners must be in good standing.

Gardens:

The community gardens are village owned property designated as park land. Gardeners are permitted to use the land at the permission of the village.

Oversight:

The gardens are the responsibility of the Ridgefield Park Green Team. The day to day operation and oversight of the gardens is done by a subcommittee of the Green Team.

Golden Rule: Be a good neighbor. This means to your fellow gardeners and people who use the parks.

What we mean is you shouldn't grow or do anything in your plot which will be a problem for your neighbor. This would include use of most pesticides and herbicides.

Work commitments will be set annually by the garden oversight sub committee of the Ridgefield Park Green Team. Current commitment is 24 hours.

Work commitments are accomplished by participation in one or more work committee. You will be assigned to a committee according to need but every effort will be made to accommodate requests for a specific committee. You will receive credit for work done for any committee and you can be assigned to more than one committee if you wish.

Gardeners may apply for an additional plot. These plots will be assigned after May 15th. Additional plots can not be kept from year to year unless there are no applications for a plot by May 15th of the following year. An additional work requirement of 9 hours will be required.

May 15th deadline:

May 15th is the deadline for planting your plot. The whole plot does not need to be planted. You just need to be actively planting by May 15th. Plots not in the process of being planted by May 15th may be assigned to a gardener on the waiting list.

Plot maintenance:

Gardeners must maintain their plots. This includes weeding, picking vegetables so they do not rot on the ground

Do Not Plant List:

You are not allowed to plant anything on the NJ Invasive Species Strike Force Do Not Plant List: www.njisst.org/documents/DoNotPlantList.pdf

In addition, the garden oversight committee will amend the strike force's list as needed. Two additions are Morning Glories and tall sunflowers. Short/dwarf sunflowers are permitted.

May plant taking precautions list:

Plastic edging must be used when planting things like mint which spread by their roots. A public mint bed will be maintained at Fellowship and McGowan for all to use

Produce:

Produce grown in the community gardens is for personal consumption and may not be sold. Excess food can be shared with family, friends, neighbors or donated to the food pantry. Use of produce by a restaurant who is assigned the plot is not considered sale.

Rule amendments:

These rules may be changed or amended at any time and without notice by the garden oversight subcommittee of the Green Team or by the Green Team.

Appeals of decisions:

Appeals of decisions by the garden oversight subcommittee may be appealed to the full Green Team. Such appeals can be done upon 15 days notice to the Green Team and notification of all gardeners by the gardener appealing.

Facebook page:

A Facebook page is currently made available to the gardeners. It is meant for social use to share photos and gardening stories in a positive manner. It shall not be used as a forum for debate about garden rules or policies.

Good Standing:

Good Standing must be maintained to retain your plot from year to year. Good standing is achieved by properly maintaining your plot, completing your work commitment and abiding by the rules of the garden. In special cases the garden oversight committee may waive the work requirement. The Green Team may deny requests to return at their discretion.