

# 2021 Duckwood Garden Rules & Policies

## Garden Rules

1. Herbicides (weed and plant killers) are not allowed in the garden.
2. Running water must always be attended to by a garden member.
3. Pets are not permitted in the garden.
4. The growing of Cannabis (marijuana) or any illegal substance is strictly prohibited.
5. Do not plant perennial plants in your plot (i.e. mint, sage, rhubarb)
6. Unauthorized harvesting of other members' produce is strictly prohibited.
7. The use of tobacco, alcohol and illegal drugs within the garden is strictly prohibited.

**Disregard for Rules 1 through 7 will result in immediate removal from the garden with no reimbursement.**

7. Gardens must be in the process of being planted by June 1st.
8. Garden beds and plot areas, including pathways, must be kept tidy and free of weeds.
9. Bicycles and motorized conveyances are not permitted in the garden.
10. Children and visitors must be accompanied by a garden member at all times.
11. Garden members must secure and lock the garden gate upon exiting the garden.
12. Garden beds must be cleared down to bare soil by October 31st.

**Disregard for Rules 7 through 13 will result in a review by the Garden Board and may result in removal from the garden with no reimbursement.**

## Garden Rule Information

**Gardening Season** - The growing season is May 1 – Oct 31st. All gardens must be planted or be in the process of planting by June 1st with at least 50% cultivated by June 15th. Gardeners must show 50% plot activity throughout the season unless special circumstances exist.

**Water** - Unattended watering is not permitted. Please water wisely and only when needed. It is better to water deeply and less frequently. Always turn the spigot(s) off and disconnect hoses when leaving the garden.

**Weeds** - Every garden member is responsible for removing all weeds, old plant material, and unused produce from their garden. One half of the pathways on each side of a gardener's plot area are their responsibility. If a plot is next to a fence, the entire distance to the fence is that gardener's responsibility. Gardeners should continuously keep their plot areas clean. Weeds should never exceed 6" or cover more than 20% of their garden in any manner. Failure to keep weeds controlled in plots or pathways will result in an email or phone call reminder. If no action is taken by the gardener to resolve the issue after seven days of the notification, the gardener may immediately lose their plot with no reimbursement.

**Boundary Enforcement** - Gardeners should be considerate of their neighbors and should not let their plants grow or flop over onto another gardener's plot or pathway. Any plants that infringe on another gardener's plot may be removed. The garden neighbor may remove plants that infringe on their plot. It is a plot owner's responsibility to remove any perennial that is encroaching on a neighbors plot or an established garden path.

**Children & Visitors** - Garden members are responsible for any children or visitors they allow in the garden.

**Pets** - Leashed or unleashed pets of any kind are not allowed in the garden.

**Garden Gate** – The garden gate should be closed and locked upon exiting the garden. To help keep rabbits from entering the garden, please pull the gate closed when temporarily entering or leaving the garden.

**Organic Growing** - Organic methods of fertilizing and pest control are encouraged. Chemical fertilizers and chemical pesticides may be used on your garden; be sure that they are applied only on non-windy days to mitigate drift into surrounding gardens. Herbicides are banned from the gardens.

**Mulch** – Mulching is encouraged, helping moisture retention in the soil, water conservation and weed control. Carpet and tire mulch is prohibited, only the use of natural/organic/biodegradable products is allowed.

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**End of Season Clean Up** At the end of each season, remove all stakes, strings, poles, tomato cages, Wall-o-Waters and any other items that may easily blow away from your plot. Extended season gardening is allowed but any structures, garden boxes, compost bins, water barrels etc. must have CSU Extension approval to remain past October 31st. Cold weather crops may remain after October 31st but should be cleared upon harvest. Plastic hoop tunnels are never allowed between October 31st and March 1st .

**Trash** – Garden waste is your responsibility. Please remove the garden and dispose of it properly off-site.

**Motorized tools** - Gas or powered lawnmowers and weed eaters are never allowed in the garden. Gas rototillers and hand held tools are allowed. Plastic sheeting: Plastic sheeting must be removed once it has become ripped and non-functional.

### Garden Policies

**Plots are assigned to individuals for their use and not organizations, either formally or informally.**

**Gardeners may not transfer their plot to another individual.** If a gardener is unable to maintain their plot for any reason, CSU Extension should be notified as soon as possible to facilitate its reissuance. Available plots will be offered first to current gardeners who wish to move to another location before being offered to the next person on the waiting list.

**Voluntary Plot Forfeiture** - Gardeners must notify CSU Extension by May 15th if they have decided to forfeit their plot for the season after they have paid annual plot fees for that year. There will be no refund of annual fees after May 15th. The deposit of record may be refunded if the plot has been made clear by May 15th. In order to receive deposit refunds for plot forfeitures at any other time during the year, a gardener must thoroughly clear all vegetation with the exception of perennials (i.e. raspberries, asparagus, rhubarb, etc.). A review committee will determine if the plot has been adequately cleared. Current gardeners are invited to sign up to clean out forfeited plots and earn the deposit of record.

**Abandoned plots will be reassigned.** Any garden beds that have not been worked by June 15th will be considered abandoned. Any plots that are neglected and unattended to will be considered abandoned. Abandoned plots will be reclaimed and reissued after notifying the gardener.

**Failure to pay dues and fees will result in plot forfeiture.** Any gardener that fails to pay their annual plot fees when due will forfeit their plot.

**Update your contact information.** It is each gardener's responsibility to update their contact information with CSU Extension.