

Old Lutz School Community Garden Rules & Guidelines

Apr. 3 2015

Rules and Guidelines

I WILL..

I will have something planted in the garden by (Spring: End of May/ Fall: End of Sept)

- and keep it planted all season long.

If I must abandon my plot for any reason, I will notify the garden coordinators.

I will keep weeds at a minimum and maintain the areas immediately surrounding my plot if any.

If my plot becomes unkempt, the garden coordinators will contact me and..

- I will have two (2) weeks to resolve the issue.

- If I do not contact the coordinators within that time, my plot will be reassigned.

I will keep trash and litter out of the plot, as well as from adjacent pathways and fences.

I will participate in the spring and fall cleanups of the garden.

I will plant tall crops where they will not shade neighboring plots.

I will pick only my own crops unless given permission by another plot user.

I will not use inorganic fertilizers, insecticides or weed repellents that will in any way affect other plots.

I will plant only organic seeds or transplants.

I agree to 20 volunteer hours, per season, toward community gardening efforts

(All tasks are listed at the garden info board and on the TO DO list at (We will set up a Facebook site). .

I understand that neither the garden group nor owners of the land are responsible for my actions.

I THEREFORE AGREE TO HOLD HARMLESS THE GARDEN GROUP AND OWNERS OF THE LAND FOR ANY LIABILITY, DAMAGE, LOSS OR CLAIM THAT OCCURS IN CONNECTION WITH USE OF THE GARDEN BY ME OR ANY OF MY GUESTS.

Gardening Guidelines

Old Lutz School Community Garden is committed to encouraging people to garden in socially and environmentally responsible ways. Currently, all plots in the communal area are organic. In general,

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soil fertility is maintained by creating optimal conditions for soil biological activity through crop rotations and the maintenance of soil organic content. Judicious use of organic and natural mineral soil amendments is also practiced, and in some cases processed mineral fertilizers may be acceptable for short-term use.

Weed Control

Herbicides of any kind are prohibited in ALL personal plots, as they are hazardous to human health, may kill or damage desirable crops, drift into neighboring gardens, or persist in the soil. Hoeing, mulching, and hand weeding are recommended.

Insect Control

Synthetic insecticides are prohibited in Old Lutz School Community Garden plots.

Preferred control methods are crop rotation, hand picking of insect pests, introduction of predator species, companion planting, soil solarization, and biological controls, e.g. *Bacillus thuringiensis*, a bacterium that controls cabbage worms.

As a last resort, natural botanicals, i.e. rotenone and pyrethrum (that break down quickly and do not leave harmful residues in the soil) may be used.

Please consult with the garden coordinators before using any biological or botanical items.

Disease Control

Most problems can be controlled if you maintain healthy soil, choose disease-resistant varieties, and remove diseased plants from the garden. Please consult with the garden coordinators if you are having any issues with diseases in your plot.

Fertilizers and Soil Amendments

Commercial inorganic fertilizers

(ie: 5-1--5, Miracle Grow, etc.) are not permitted. Products of plant or animal origin i.e. compost, leaf mold, livestock manure, blood and bone meal, cover crops, fish emulsion, kelp meal, liquid seaweed, and commercial organic fertilizers are acceptable.

Natural mineral fertilizers

i.e. greensand, granite dust, and ground limestone are also acceptable. Gardeners are strongly urged to add as much organic material (i.e. compost, leaf mold, and manure) as possible to their plots to maintain soil fertility.

Non-Acceptable Plants

Old Lutz School Community Garden cannot allow plants with the following characteristics to be grown in any of the gardens

Invasive species such as mint, comfrey, etc.

Trees, bushes, or other woody perennials

Illegal or dangerous plants

This is a community space that welcomes everyone who is willing to participate.

Thus, to ensure an atmosphere of cooperation and friendship in our garden, we ask everyone to come with an open mind and a willingness to accept all people of a different race, religion, or ethnicity.

To maximize the use of our space and to afford the most opportunity possible for willing workers, it would be best for the plots to be planted by (Spring: End of May/ Fall: End of Sept).

Unused plots will be extended to members who are willing to garden it.

If you become unable to continue working on your plot, please let a garden coordinator know so that whatever is growing can be sustained by another community garden member.

The community garden tools are for everyone's use.

We hope that you enjoy them and treat them with respect so that others may use them also.

When you are no longer using the tools, please return them to the shed.

Please plant your garden in such a way that for most of the day your neighbors will receive their fair share of sunshine.

You may need to place tall plants like corn, sunflowers, and pole beans - in the southwest part of the plot.

Please do not allow plants to encroach into the paths and adjacent plots.

Please be respectful of other members' plots by picking only what is yours, unless you have been given permission.

To avoid potential conflicts regarding the use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides, and fungicides, we ask that all members refrain from their use. Instead, we promote organic gardening.

We are eager to have young children share in the community garden experience.

However, we ask that parents supervise their children since there will be times when it may be difficult to distinguish between member's plots.

We encourage members to participate in general garden maintenance and upkeep as well as special events such as seasonal openings and closings.

Please clean up after your dogs and keep them on a leash while in the garden area.

Can you dig it? If so then come dig with OLSCG. Any Questions? Please stop by the Garden on Saturday mornings and speak with one of our Garden Coordinators. To request all the membership related forms, please email bbnevelta@aol.com You are what makes this a great place to live in! We hope to see you in the OLS Community Garden soon!

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

