

SUNSET MEADOWS COMMUNITY GARDEN

The Sunset Meadows Community Garden is a coordinated effort between the members of the garden and the HOA, in order to provide space for members to garden, to foster community within our complex, and to promote harmony and health. The HOA provides the ground the garden is on, the water going to that area, the fence around the area, and maintenance of area outside the fence. The HOA has ownership of the fence. The Community Garden provides the raised beds boxes and the soil for the boxes. The individual gardeners provide their own seeds, plants, fertilizers and whatever else is necessary for maintaining their space. The garden area is 35 ft X 25 ft and individual beds are 8ft X 5ft or 3 ft x 13 ft. There will be a total of ten beds with some space left in the garden for growing flowers or other shared items. A waiting list will be maintained.

RULES

- 1) **This is an organic garden.** There will be no chemical fertilizers, insecticides, or herbicides used in this garden. If necessary for controlling pests, organic means will be used in a bee-friendly manner.
- 2) **Health and Safety precautions will be taken in the garden.**
 - A) Masks and social distancing will be maintained during the Pandemic whenever there is more than one person in the garden.
 - B) Any hose stretching across sidewalk to the garden will be flagged with colorful ribbon and will be placed back in shrubbery when not being used.
 - C) Gardening tools or other trip hazards will never be left in the pathways.
 - D) No smoking, torches, or other fire-hazards are permitted in the garden area.
 - E) The garden will be kept locked when members are not present.
 - F) Pathways will be 36 inches wide in compliance with American Disabilities Act.
 - G) Several tall garden boxes will be provided for people who are unable to kneel.
- 3) **Garden will be kept in a clean and tidy manner and not create any “eye sores”.**
 - A) Tools will be put away after use.
 - B) Any bags, boxes, pots, dead plants or other debris will be removed before the garden is locked for the day.
 - C) The garden beds and pathways between them will be kept weeded.
 - D) All Gardening boxes will be made of wood (preferably Cedar or Redwood) and kept within the designated 40 square foot space garden beds of each member. Boxes may vary in size and height to accommodate the needs of certain plants, and they must be neatly arranged.
 - E) Individual beds can be planted and harvested at the discretion of their designated gardener, but after harvesting the bed must be cleared of dead plants (which may include turning them into the soil).
 - F) Any garden bed abandoned by designated gardener for more than a month

will result in the gardener losing their place in the garden. It is permissible for a gardener going on vacation to ask another gardener to maintain their bed in their absence.

G) If a gardener fails to maintain their space in good order they will be given a 2-week warning by the Chairperson. If after two warnings they haven't remedied the situation, they will lose their space.

4) Common Courtesy/Community Standards

A) No marijuana will be grown in the garden

B) If gardeners play radios or other devices the volume must be kept low.

C) No shouting or hostile behavior will be tolerated. Any arguments that may ensue between gardeners will be settled privately outside of garden and if necessary the group will settle the dispute collectively.

D) No pets permitted in the garden.

E) Extra vegetables may be traded among the gardeners or offered to neighbors

F) A friendly, cooperative, and harmonious attitude is expected.

5) Space Distribution/Decision Making

A) Gardeners may share their space with another person but may not trade their space to other residents. Any exceptions to this must be agreed upon by the other gardeners

B) Decisions on what to do with unclaimed garden beds will be made collectively by majority vote. This might include growing flowers, herbs, or crops we can all share.

C) Decisions on what to put in other open space within garden will be decided collectively by the group. This might include a bench, flowers, herbs, vegetables or tasteful yard art.

D) Gardeners will decide on majority vote about dues, bookkeeping, electing a chair person and any other issue that may arise that impacts the group collectively.

E) Any decisions that will impact Sunset Meadows as a whole, will be deferred to the HOA board of directors.

7) These rules may be revised by the collective approval of the Community Garden members. Anyone member is welcome to propose changes or additions.