



2026 Community Gardens Rules

Breaking any rules, terms and conditions may result in exclusion and loss of plots and fees.

General Rules

1. Registration for Community Garden Plots:

- **February 2 – 6** **Returning gardeners with same location.**
- **February 9 – 13** **Returning gardeners wanting to reserve a new plot location. Register in person at the Parks and Recreation Department to select a new plot location.**
- **February 17** **New gardeners may begin to register.**
- **February 17** **Online Registration**

2. The garden is open 7:00am to dusk, seven days a week.
3. Using alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs or gambling is prohibited at the garden site.
4. Pets must be on a leash or otherwise tethered. Please be conscientious of your neighbors and properly dispose of any waste.
5. Avoid driving on turf areas when wet to reduce chances of rutting or getting stuck.
6. Vehicles are only allowed in the immediate garden area and adjacent turf areas.
7. Vehicles must be removed daily. No overnight parking is allowed.

Procedural Reminders

1. Plot fees are due in full before the garden season begins.
2. Please check the map carefully to be certain that you are planting in the correct plot.
3. Garden plots must be kept free of weeds, pests and diseases.
4. Guests and visitors must be accompanied by a gardener who is responsible for their behavior.
5. Children are welcome but must be accompanied by a gardener and be supervised at all times.
6. Gardeners are responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of their garden plots. Watering, weeding, harvesting and any other garden-related maintenance are all the responsibility of the gardener. Gardeners may arrange for other gardeners to water their plots.

Policies

1. No illegal, controlled, noxious or invasive plants are permitted.
2. Any trespassing or pilfering on other plots/property is prohibited.
3. If a reserved plot is not planted by June 13, fees will be forfeited, and the plot will be offered to someone on the waiting list.
4. Garden plots should be cared for at least once a week. It is the gardener's responsibility to notify the Parks and Recreation Department if they are not able to care for the plot in any given week. If any plot remains unattended for more than three weeks that plot is subject to reassignment, or removal.
5. Gardeners are not permitted to dig a trench along the perimeter of their plot and any trenches dug can be no deeper than 6" and must be at minimum 2' from the plot boundary. Any trenches must be filled in at the end of the season.
6. If you decide to give up your plot during the season, please contact the Parks and Recreation Department so that it may be offered to someone on the waiting list.
7. **At the end of the growing season, gardeners are responsible for clearing their plot of all plant material, fences, stakes, weed control fabric, non-vegetative matter and debris by October 31.**
8. Due to the open nature of the garden, the City of Pickerington is not responsible or liable for loss of supplies, tools or equipment. It is recommended that you do not leave your belongings in the garden.
9. If you witness or experience garden theft or vandalism, please notify the Parks and Recreation Department by calling 614-833-2211 and contact the Police Department by calling 614-575-6911.
10. If a plot goes unattended with produce still salvageable, the Pickerington Local Food Pantry will harvest the crop for local families in need.
11. **If using the water tank, please be courteous of others who want to use it as well. Gardeners may only use water while they are on-site. Hoses are not permitted to be hooked up to the tank and ran to the garden plot for watering. Water tanks may not be available throughout the growing season.**

We highly encourage all gardeners to participate in Plant a Row for Hungry and dedicate a portion of their crop to our local Food Pantry. Please work to maintain the Community Garden as a happy, secure and enjoyable place where all participants can garden and socialize peacefully in a neighborly manner.