

City of Eyota Community Garden

2016 Garden Polices & Rules

GENERAL POLICIES FOR USE AND MAINTENANCE

Eyota Community Garden is open to the public from April to November 2016 and is subject to the following policies.

1. Each garden plot is approximately 12 X16 feet or a set of 2 raised beds (4 X 12 foot each). Rental fee of \$20. Half plots are available for \$10.
2. Gardeners need to reapply each year; they are allowed to retain the same plot, if they wish. After May 15, if there are unrented plots, gardeners may rent 2nd plots.
3. **Expectation of gardeners:** During the garden season, everyone must maintain their plots by **visiting their gardens at least weekly to weed and pick ripe produce**. If you are unable to visit your plot, please ask someone to care for your plot in your absence. If unable to use excess produce, please considering donating it to a food shelf. **Do not abandon your ripe produce—it will encourage theft.**
4. Gardeners are responsible for all soil amendments, cultivating, weeding, fertilizing, and watering, etc. of their plots. Tilling is done by volunteers on a work day.
5. Clean up plots in the fall and return them to a weed free condition.
6. All perennial plant material, semi-permanent structures, wire cages, etc. must be removed with the conclusion of the 2016 growing season.
7. Wood bins are available for gardeners to dispose of unwanted plant material.
8. Trash container is available for non-plant materials .
9. **Keep all borders of gardens along fences and the pathways free of weeds & grass.**
10. Do not rent a plot for only planting sweet corn, large vining crops or sunflowers. Be sure your crops don't shade neighbors' crops or encroach outside your garden plot.
11. Park your vehicle in the parking lot, do not drive on the grass in the park. A bike rack is available if you visit the gardens using your bike.

GARDENING IN AN ECO-FRIENDLY WAY

1. These gardens are not specified as “organic” but we encourage gardeners to consider alternatives to chemical pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers and weed-killers.
2. Gardeners are encouraged to cover their plot with straw, mulch, or compost to control weeds. Mulch will lower watering needs. Use only natural biodegradable mulches.
3. **Plant flowers along the pathway edge** to improve the gardens' appearance and encourage pollination.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. Consider your garden neighbors in your garden visits. Please use courtesy and consideration. For example: Don't allow pets in the gardens or smoke while working in the gardens. Children are welcome; gardening is a wonderful teaching tool.
2. Due to the open nature of the garden site, the City of Eyota is not responsible for loss of garden products. Get to know your neighbors so they become the garden “police.”
4. **All gardeners are expected volunteer two hours of their time**, either taking part in a spring set-up, fall clean-up, new beds set-up, mulch placement or care of the patio area (keeping it and perennial beds weed-free or planting and watering the herb pots).
5. All gardeners are encouraged to pick herbs from herb pots in patio area.
6. Only green fencing materials (belonging to the City of Eyota) will be used around gardens.
7. If garden plots are not maintained properly, the City of Eyota or Community Garden Committee can terminate your gardening agreement or not renewing for another year.
8. If a garden plot appears to be abandoned, the renter will be notified. If no interest is shown in tending and harvesting from the plot, the plot will be given to another gardener to tend until the end of the season.

____I agree to follow these garden rules. I will keep my garden weeded and pick produce when it is ready. I understand I am responsible for keeping the pathway and fencing adjoining my garden weed free.

____I understand that the City of Eyota is not responsible for my actions. I THEREFORE AGREE TO HOLD HARMLESS THE CITY OF EYOTA FOR ANY LIABILITY, DAMAGE, LOSS OR CLAIM THAT OCCURS IN CONNECTION WITH USE OF THE GARDEN BY ME OR ANY OF MY GUESTS.

Sign Name: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____ Plot No. _____

Email Address: _____ Phone No.: _____