

COMMUNITY GARDEN RULES & GUIDELINES

Growing to Green Educator: lwhite@fpconservatory.org

Muluken Kebede, Growing to Green Coordinator: mkebeede@fpconservatory.org

Alison Davis, Volunteer Manager: adavis@fpconservatory.org

Growing to Green Office Location: 1820 Franklin Park South

Immediate assistance? Call Security: 614-715-8166

For any emergencies, theft, suspicious behavior, and assistance with the shed key or lock. For life-threatening emergencies **call 911** and then alert Security to guide emergency services to your location.

INTRODUCTION

Growing to Green (G2G) is a free community garden program for Central Ohio. The Franklin Park Conservatory Community Garden (FPCCG) is managed by the G2G Program. It is located in the Scotts Miracle-Gro Company Community Garden Campus and offers a variety of benefits to its communities. Not only does it improve access to fresh food but it serves as a space for neighbors to connect and reflect on nature's beauty. This garden serves as a model for participants in the Conservatory's G2G program. FPCCG requires all gardeners to read and abide by the following rules and guidelines to ensure the growth of the gardening community as well as the continuation of plot ownership.

RULES & GUIDELINES

1. For eligible plotheolders, registration starts on **February 1st**.
 - o Registration for the waitlist will start on **February 15th** if there are open plots.
2. Growing Season dates: The growing season starts April 1st and plots must be cleared out by November 1st.
3. Abandoned plots may **NOT** be refunded after April 1st.
4. Garden hours: dawn to dusk seven days a week. If the gates are locked to the community garden campus, please call security.
5. As the FPCCG is an allotment garden within a larger public community garden campus. Members

are expected to partake in certain maintenance to ensure that the garden is a beautiful, well-kept area for everyone. Starting April 1st through November 1st. Such maintenance items are:

- Keeping equipment and site in good condition (general maintenance).
 - Weeds and diseased plant material should be placed in the yard refuse bags in the shed.
 - i. Only pre-approved plant material may be placed in the compost area.
 - Picking up trash/litter.
 - Attending at least one out of the three Shed Clean-Out work days throughout the season
 - i. Shed Clean-Out dates can be found on the calendar posted in the shed or by contacting the G2G Educator.
6. Tools are provided in the shed, if additional tools are needed you can make this request to the Growing to Green Educator. The combination for the lock on the shed will be given to members and will be changed annually or as needed. Make sure to close and lock the shed after you enter and when you exit.
 7. Children under 14 must be supervised at all times while in the garden.
 8. Each plot may be registered to one or two people.
 9. Subletting is **NOT** permitted.
 10. Smoking, chewing tobacco, and open flames are **NOT** allowed in the garden. Tobacco (even cured and dried) is a carrier of the Tobacco Mosaic Virus which can kill many common vegetable crops.
 11. Plots have customized staked signs which have been marked for the reason of individual plot recognition.
 12. Non-selective herbicides (like Roundup) are **NOT** allowed in the garden.
 13. Plots may be arranged to the tender's whim, but certain regulations do apply:
 - No permanent structures are permitted (concrete, bricks, and mortar).
 - All structures and vegetation must not cross into, or shade, another plot.
 - Any plant or garden decor or fencing materials must be brought by the plotholder.
 14. Plotholders are responsible for the maintenance and harvesting of their plot.
 - Do **NOT** harvest from other plots or public spaces.
 15. If you will be away for an extended amount of time, notify the Growing to Green Educator.
 16. Notify the G2G Educator if you find any leaks in hoses or damaged tools.
 17. The bulletin board is for garden business only, soliciting is not allowed.

VIOLATION POLICIES

- Garden plot holders will **forfeit the plot** if the conditions below occur:
 - a. If the plot has excessive weeds or weeds go to flowers which can disturb other plotholders' gardens.
 - b. Plot transferred or subletting occurs. Violation warnings are ignored, and violations are

- repeated.
- c. Act in a threatening or abusive manner to other gardeners. No bullying.
- d. No active communication with the G2G team.
- Violation Procedures.
 - a. When a violation occurs, the G2G Educator will send the plotholder a warning. The warning will have the violation details and the deadline set for the plotholder to fix the problem.

ELIGIBILITY STATUS FOR PLOT RENEWAL

To become eligible for renewing the registration for a plot for the next season the following requirements must be met:

1. A minimum of **25 hours** of volunteer engagement for a registered plot to one person. A minimum of **35 hours** of volunteer engagement must be recorded for a plot registered to two people.
2. At the end of the growing season all staking, fencing, caging, and pavers must be removed by November 1st.
 - a. There is to be no personal storage of property in the shed.
 - b. Season extension can be approved upon request.
 - c. Perennial crops may be planted (ornamental and edible).

VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

The FPCCG serves as a model for allotment style for community gardens in Central Ohio. As an equal part community to garden, a commitment of engagement from its plotholders is essential. Engagement can enhance the gardening experience with fellowship, learning, and connectivity.

1. Volunteer engagement hours are defined as time:
 - a. Maintaining personal plot.
 - b. Maintaining public space in the FPCCG.
 - c. Volunteering on the Main FPC Campus.
 - d. Engaging with other community gardeners in educational/social/work events at FPCCG.
2. Volunteer Engagement Hour Management must be recorded through Volgistics.