

SHOREWOOD HILLS COMMUNITY GARDEN RULES

The Community Gardens Committee of Shorewood Hills oversees the garden plots at Post Farm Park. The Committee membership is: Peter Fisher (chair - 236-4400 / fishergalloway@gmail.com), Bob Gerber, Silvano Garofalo and Georgene Stratman. The Community Gardens consist of 59 annual plots (19' 9" x 20') and 23 perennial plots. The perennial plots are on the west end of the garden and are not cultivated by the Village. The east end of the garden has been set aside as a nursery for the Village Forester. Plot rentals are available for Village of Shorewood Hills residents only.

The rules for use of the Community Gardens are as follows:

- A. To Encourage Neighborliness:
1. Ensuring an enjoyable gardening experience for all gardeners is a primary goal of the Village Community Garden Committee. Please respect your fellow gardeners.
 2. Having Village park land available and gardening in the Village Community Gardens is a privilege, and the Garden Committee will enforce all gardening policies.
 3. Gardeners are asked to avoid planting spreading plants (Sunflower, tomato, etc.) near the lanes or adjacent plots to avoid infringing on the walkway and on your neighbor's growing space. Gardeners must keep fence lines between individual gardens weed free.
 4. Water spigots are placed within the gardens each spring. The Village provides some community hoses. Please be considerate of the hose use and do not hook up personal sprinklers and leave the gardens.
 5. Gardeners must provide their own tools; however, the Village will provide some "community tools" for sharing. These tools will be designated by bright red handles and must remain at the gardens for all to use. The "community tools" idea is to encourage gardeners to walk or ride bikes to the gardens and have garden tools available.
- B. To Encourage Organic Gardening:
1. Although the gardens are not specified as "organic gardens", we encourage gardeners to consider alternatives to the use of chemical pesticides.
 2. The Village Crew will deliver compost and wood chips to the gardens.
 3. Gardeners are strongly encouraged to cover their plot(s) with mulch as an excellent method of weed control. If you're unfamiliar with mulching techniques, contact a committee member.
- C. To Oversee Garden Assignments:
1. The Committee will assign annual plots in the spring. Plot assignments will be made with the following priorities. First, continuing gardeners requesting the same plot. Second, continuing gardeners requesting a different plot. Third, new gardeners. Fourth, requests for a second annual plot. And fifth, late applicants. Perennial plots may be assigned at any time.
 2. Plots that appear to be unworked or abandoned will be reclaimed without refund. The Committee may reassign the plot.
 3. Please use the buddy system if you will be away and unable to tend or harvest you plot(s).
 4. Weeds must be controlled in your plot(s). If they go to seed they will invade your neighbors plots. The Committee will send offending gardeners a letter notifying them of the weed problem. If it is not corrected, the Committee may deny the gardeners a plot in the following year.
 5. All garden planting should be underway by June 1, weather permitting. If, for some reason, this is not possible please contact the Village Hall or a committee member.

D. To Encourage Year Round Use of the Garden:

The Garden Committee has set aside the west end of the garden as a perennial plantings zone. The purpose of this area is to allow gardeners to plant multi-season (asparagus, strawberries, etc.) or early/late crops that would otherwise be impractical in plots that are cultivated at the beginning and end of each season.

The nature of this zone requires that its gardeners be highly committed to maintaining a weed free garden and that they will be responsible for removing plants past their productive life. This area could become unsightly if the gardeners are not committed to its maintenance.

There are 23 10'x10' plots which will be assigned to requesting gardeners by the Committee. Once assigned a plot, the Committee will endeavor to maintain that commitment to each gardener for a minimum period of four years.

Gardeners requesting these plots must understand and agree to the following terms above and beyond those of an annual plot.

1. Perennial plots will only be assigned to annual plot gardeners.
2. Perennial plots are small; therefore gardeners must avoid shading their neighbor's plot with tall plants or expansive vining plants such as melon plants.
3. Plots must be well maintained.
4. After two notices by the Community Garden committee members, failure to maintain your plot will result in the loss of perennial plot privileges.
5. The storage of equipment, tools or supplies in the perennial plot zone is not allowed.

If you are interested in an annual plot at the Post Farm Park and are a resident of Shorewood Hills, please sign and return an application by this year's deadline. You may lose the plot you were assigned the prior year if you do not complete and return your application by the deadline, or if you failed to maintain your plot throughout the previous season.

Perennial plots are available to annual plot gardeners only. Plots that are undeveloped by June 1 will be considered abandoned and will revert to the Village unless special arrangements have been made.

If you are unsure as to your plot assignment last year, please contact the Village Hall or look up last year's map on the Community Gardens' web page: <http://www.shorewood-hills.org/gardens.htm>