Frederick County Division of Parks and Recreation
Community Gardens Program

Rules and Regulations for 2014 Growing Season

- Individual garden plots are to be used for growing fruits/vegetables only for personal use and not for commercial sales.
- A maximum of two (2) garden plots per family is permitted. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older.
- Plots are non-transferable. All plots will be surrendered back to Frederick County Parks and Recreation. **Fees are non-refundable**.
- Community Gardens are an organic space. The use of fertilizers, insecticides or weed repellents is prohibited.
- Gardeners are responsible for cultivating (excluding initial spring cultivation by P&R), weeding and watering their own plots. Gardeners will visit and maintain their plots on a weekly basis. If you will be out of town or on vacation, please arrange to have a fellow gardener or designee watch over your plot.
- Community Gardens will open March 15th and be cleared of any and all debris/material by October 31st.
- Garden plots that are rented after the season is opened, but show no signs of activity within 30 days of being rented, will be considered abandoned and all fees paid will be forfeited.
- All gardens are subject to occasional inspections. Garden plots are to be regularly weeded.   Plots that become heavily weeded or are not regularly maintained will be considered in violation of the Community Gardens Program Rules and Regulations. The gardener in violation will then receive an email to bring their plot(s) into compliance. A second inspection will take place the following week. If said garden plot(s) is still not in compliance, the plot(s) will be surrendered and all fees will be forfeited.
- Children are a wonderful addition to the Community Gardens Program and we encourage their involvement. Children are to be monitored while in the Community Gardens area and are not to play in or around any garden plots.
- When watering with a water hose, use a Y gate on the hose in order to be able to have two hoses running at once. If other gardeners are waiting please limit watering to 15 minutes. The gardener **MUST** be present when watering. Do not leave the water unattended. **Sprinklers are not allowed.**
- No structures, including fencing, scarecrows, windmills, etc. are allowed in any of the garden plots.
- Biodegradable mulch is encouraged. Examples include: aged compost, leaves, straw and hay. Carpet mulch, stone and sod are not allowed.
- Keep plot boundaries weeded and trash free. Do not discard stones or other garden plot materials onto the surrounding grass walkways. This material is to be placed in the provided compost bids.
- Garden plot corners are clearly marked with stakes. Do not remove these stakes during the season. There are also permanent boundary markers which are not to be disturbed.
- No invasive plants are permitted. A list of invasive plants can be found at http://www.mdinvasivesp.org/ .
- No littering or dumping of kitchen garbage. The Community Gardens Program is a carry in and carry out facility – trash free. A compost bin is available and is for plant waste only.
- Alcohol in the Community Gardens area is prohibited.
- Amplified music or any other activities that would infringe on other gardeners or park users' enjoyment of the park, is prohibited.
- No unauthorized expansion of your plot into the surrounding paths or encroaching on other plots is permitted.
- No taking of fruits/vegetables from plots that are not yours.
- Keep gates in the garden closed at all times.
- The smoking or chewing of tobacco is prohibited. Tobacco carries the mosaic virus, which is deadly to some plants.
- Community Gardens are open from 8AM to sunset. No garden activities are permitted after sunset.
- No pets are permitted inside the Community Gardens perimeter fencing.
- Park in designated Community Gardens parking areas only.

THE FREDERICK COUNTY DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY INJURY OR PROPERTY DAMAGE INCURRED BY A PERSON OR FOR THEFT, LOSS OR DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.