

Share and Serve Garden Policies and Terms of Use

Garden Beds

Beds are \$25 per year with a limit of 2 beds per household per year. 2 beds sizes are offered:

- 4ft by 16ft (64 sq. ft) rectangular beds
- 8ft by 10ft (42 sq. ft.) u-shaped beds

Garden plot lease dates:

- Current lessees can renew their lease by completing the form and submitting payment in full before December 15 of each year.
- Any beds available after December 15th can be leased by First United Methodist Church (FUMC) congregation members until February 15.
- Any beds available after February can be leased by anyone.

Each gardener is responsible for what they grow in their own bed & the maintenance and upkeep of their garden bed.

The application of herbicides (weed killers) to the garden plots is PROHIBITED. **Any treatments to plants or beds must be organic.**

All beds must be adequately maintained all year even during periods of inactivity.

- **Within season inactivity**- All beds must be frequently weeded. If there is more than 2 weeks between the harvest of one planting and the next, the bed must be cleared of all vegetation and covered with black plastic during the period of inactivity.
- **End of year inactivity**- At the end of the growing season if the bed will not be used for the remainder of the lease, such as over winter, then the bed must either be cleared of vegetation and covered with black plastic OR planted with a cover crop approved by the garden coordinator.

Garden Area

Children under 15 must be accompanied by an adult and be supervised at ALL times.

Pets are not allowed inside of the garden fence.

Gardeners are responsible for keeping both their garden plots and the surrounding pathways, keeping all areas free from weeds, overgrown plants, and other obstructions. The Share and Serve Garden is not responsible for any damage to plants or vegetables.

Two compost bins are provided for the benefit of any gardener. Use of the compost bins are optional, BUT anyone using the compost bins MUST adhere to compost rules posted in the garden.

Gardeners are not allowed to plant anything on the fence surrounding the garden. Any decorative items must be kept inside the garden beds, the pathways remain clear of obstruction.

Plants

Any type of vegetable or flower may be planted.

Any plant that spreads root or rhizomes (including mint, horseradish, and nettle) or other invasive plants must be planted in a container located within the raised bed and growth limited to the interior of the raised bed.

Do not allow tall plants or vines to cast substantial shadows on another plot.

Remove all weeds before they begin to flower or go to seed. Unattended weeds spread seeds to neighboring beds.

Pulled weeds should be disposed of in the debris pile outside the North end of the garden area. Vegetables, vegetable plants and other appropriate material may be added to the compost bins strictly following the rules posted in the garden.

Plants with diseases or bug infestations must be treated organically or removed.

All weeds, rotting or unusable plants, flowers and vegetables must be discarded properly.

Tools

Tools will be made available for use at Garden Shed.

ALL tools are to be rinsed and cleaned BEFORE being put away.

Tools are NOT to be removed from the garden property.

Donations

To further the mission of First United Methodist Church and its Share and Serve Garden, all Gardeners must donate a portion of their harvest to an organization addressing food insecurity in Macon County; or, the Gardener may provide this portion of their harvest to individuals in need.

If a Gardener needs further information, the Share and Serve Garden can provide Gardeners with a list of organizations addressing food insecurity in Macon County.

The Policies and Terms of Use may be amended by the Share and Serve Garden Committee.

Garden Plot Registration

Contact Information

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Zip: _____

Phone : _____

Email: _____

Did you have a garden plot with this community garden last year?

Yes No

If yes, do you want the same garden plot this year?

Yes No

If no, what area of the garden would you like to be in?

Community Garden Fees

A plot fee of \$25 is required before the plot can be assigned. This fee will go toward expenses of the community garden [water bills, plant/seed purchases, community tools, etc.].

Volunteering

Please mark three areas that you would be interested in volunteering with during the season. Each gardener is encouraged to help during the season with general chores.

Site maintenance

Path maintenance

Construction projects

Watering

Annual planting

Fall cleanup

Composting

Social events

I have read the Share and Serve Garden Policies and Terms of Use. I understand that failure to meet the guidelines will result in loss of cleanup deposit fees and gardening privileges.

Signature: _____

Date: _____